

Anonymous Gifts Of Rings Received By FMB, Index

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Fifteen months ago, a dying, 91-year-old woman touched the hearts of Southern Baptists when she gave her diamond solitaire engagement ring to be sold and the money given "to some young woman preparing for mission work."

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board received the ring. Staff members bought it and gave it to the board as a permanent display of sacrifice to missions.

Now, the SBC Foreign Mission Board and the Georgia Baptist Convention are recipients of similar, anonymous sacrifices.

At the Foreign Mission Board, a gold ring set with 12 single-cut diamonds arrived in an envelope wrapped in an ordinary paper towel. With it, a note: "Use this for foreign missions only. God Bless."

There was no name, no address, no city. There wasn't even a legible postmark, leaving the gift completely anonymous. The handwriting had a feminine flair, and was probably that of an older woman.

Two stunning diamond rings came to The Christian Index, Georgia Baptist newspaper, from a donor who signed herself, "Born Again."

A note in the package told the editor, Jack Harwell, to sell the rings and give the money to "whatever person or program the Lord leads you to."

The rings were appraised and sold and the money put in the endowment fund of The Christian Index, where its board felt the money would "undergird everything The Christian Index does to support Christian missions in Georgia and elsewhere," according to a story in the Index.

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2,000 On Boat

FMB Offers To Help Stranded Refugees

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has offered the use of its campgrounds in Luzon, Philippines, and \$50,000 in hunger relief money to help in a project to ease the plight of 2,000 Vietnamese refugees aboard the freighter Tung An in Manila Bay.

If the Philippine government approves a proposal to move the refugees off the crowded ship, they would be housed for about a month at the Luzon Baptist Conference Grounds until they could leave to resettle in other countries or be moved to another holding camp.

Some assistance has been given to the refugees by another relief organization which is now seeking permission from the Philippine government for them to be admitted temporarily.

Hunger Funds

At its March meeting, the Foreign Mission Board approved use of \$50,000 from world hunger funds donated by Southern Baptists to help in feeding the refugees if they are moved to the 15-acre Baptist camp, located near the entrance of Manila Bay within sight of Corregidor.

The plight of the 2,000 Vietnamese aboard the Tung An first captured world attention early this year when the ship sailed into Manila Bay in a bid for freedom. Although the Philippines is temporarily housing 2,000 other such refugees, it refused to allow passengers on the Tung An to come ashore. But it spent more than a million pesos (about \$136,000 U.S.) feeding the refugees in the first six weeks after they arrived, Asiaweek Magazine reported.

Warned by Philippine Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo in February

that the Tung An might be forced back to sea, the United States agreed to accept 1,200 of the refugees and five other nations offered to resettle smaller numbers. Philippine authorities expressed fear that the human waste and garbage tossed out of the ship directly into Manila Bay might be a health hazard to cities and villages along the shore.

Missionaries in the Philippines said a former Vietnamese pastor in New Zealand has offered to come at his own expense to minister to the refugees while they are at the camp. A doctor also may be needed.

Although its general relief funds are down to less than \$3,000, the board reallocated another \$50,000 originally set up for earthquake repairs in Romania to meet emergency needs of flood victims in Brazil. Up to this point, permission has not been received from the Romanian government for rebuilding seminary buildings damaged in the 1977 quake. In case the work in Romania becomes possible, efforts could be made to replace the funds.

The latest allocation for Brazil supplement \$235,836 approved in February for victims of the Brazil flood which has left more than 650 dead and more than 300,000 persons homeless.

A total of \$122,692 was appropriated from world hunger funds for six projects in five countries. In addition to the \$50,000 refugee allocation for the Philippines, the allocations will fund nutritional rehabilitation in India and treatment for extreme malnourished hospital patients in that country; provide food and seeds for planting in

Bolivia; finance a farm development project in Togo; and restore funds to work in North Brazil which had been reallocated in February for use in the South Brazil flood crisis.

In other actions, the board heard a report that contributions to the 1978 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions have reached \$26,557,267, more than 66 percent of the \$40 million goal and a \$3.7 million increase over the total at this time last year. Books on the offering remain open until the end of May.

Treasurer-Elect

Executive Director Baker J. Cauthen also informed board members that Carl W. Johnson had been elected as senior assistant treasurer and treasurer-elect. His name was approved at the February board meeting but election to the post was not announced until all board members not present at the meeting could be polled.

Johnson, vice president of a Richmond, Va., real estate management and brokerage firm, will join the staff May 1 and take over as treasurer after the retirement of Everett L. Deane at the end of 1980.

The board continued to wrestle with the rising costs of missionary support. It appropriated \$275,000 from current funds to help its 2,900 missionaries meet increase in the self-employment Social Security taxes this year. With the increase, the board will be paying \$465 per missionary, about half the tax amount.

Changes in the federal tax law also made it necessary for the board to ap-

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Highrise In Trouble

Tennessee Baptists Call Special April Convention

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — A special session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention has been called for April 5 to deal with the financially troubled Belmont Plaza, a highrise apartment complex for senior adults.

Belmont Plaza has been in trouble since November 1978 when it was discovered that excess funds from a bond sale could be used only for construction and not for operating expenses as originally intended.

Belmont Plaza was built by the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation, and is technically a separate entity from the state Baptist convention. But the Tennessee Baptist Convention gave birth to the corporation, elects its directors, set its debt limit at \$5 million, and must approve additional spending. But as stated on the bond agreement, the state convention claims no responsibility for the corporation's indebtedness.

Of the \$5 million raised through a bond sale, \$456,000 remains unspent and unuseable.

The executive board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention voted to use up to \$180,000 from an emergency fund to meet principal and interest payments to the bond holders and for utility costs and security of Belmont Plaza to keep from defaulting before the called convention.

Directors of the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation have indicated they will ask Tennessee Baptists for a \$1.5 million letter of credit at the special session which could be used to borrow additional funds. They also will ask for assurance that the service corporation will receive a minimum of \$100,000 per year from the state's Cooperative Program budget, beginning in November. They had originally assured Tennessee Baptists that no Cooperative Program funds would be sought or needed.

The convention's executive board rejected an administrative committee recommendation to authorize a financial campaign for the service corporation.

William H. Coles Jr. of Nashville was appointed chairman of a special committee to explore all possibilities of dealing with the troubled complex and bring a report to the first specially called session in the 105-year history of the convention. Coles is vice president

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It Was A Good Year For Home Missions

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — Though some Southern Baptist Convention statistics dipped during 1978 according to recent reports, it was a banner year in home missions.

M. Wendell Belew, director of the Home Mission Board's division of missions ministries, told SBC leadership in a personal mailout that more than two new church-type missions a day were started in the U.S. during 1978 for a total of 756.

These were added to more than 1,800 church-type missions organized the previous year. "When these organize into churches we will have fantastic numbers," Belew said.

Additionally, Belew said, Southern Baptists have averaged baptizing 1,000 people a day for approximately 25 years.

They have averaged establishing one new church a day since organizing as a convention in 1845.

More than 500 predominantly black churches have affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention and more are affiliating at a rapid rate, he said.

The Home Mission Board department of special mission ministries assisted 21,871 lay persons in doing volunteer short term missions.

Student summer missionaries numbered 1,446 — the largest group ever.

In church extension, 140 seminary students in summer intern programs established 40 new missions.

A Southern Baptist ministry of some form was begun in nearly 100 counties that have no Southern Baptist church.

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Denny Proposes Baptist Delegation Visit China

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Baptist World Alliance is seeking permission to bring "a small international delegation" of Baptists to the People's Republic of China "for the purpose of expressing international fellowship,

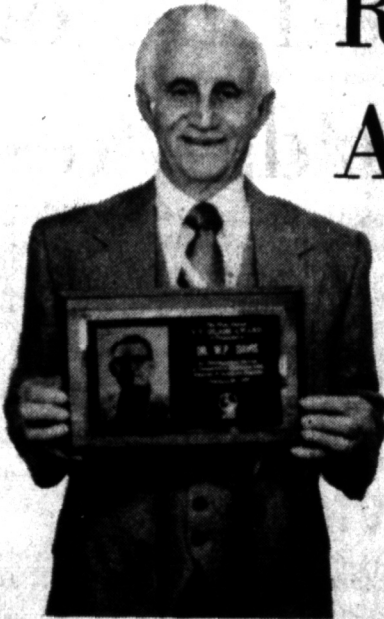
peace, and greetings to our fellow believers."

Robert S. Denny, general secretary of BWA, said he is in correspondence with officials of the World Religion Institute at Beijing (Peking), an office established by the Chinese government for the study of religions.

"The Baptist World Alliance is a voluntary association of 111 national Baptist groups with a total membership of over 30 million," Denny wrote. "Our people live in more than 100 nations and enjoy friendship and understanding without regard to race, nationality or political ideologies of the countries in which they live."

He explained that David Y. K. Wong of Hong Kong, "who was born on the mainland," is president of the Alliance, and that BWA's 12 vice presidents are from the various continents. "We are interested in re-establishing friendly and peaceful relationships with our fellow believers and all peoples of the People's Republic of China," said Denny, who noted he was writing on Wong's behalf. He suggested a spring or summer date for the proposed visit.

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Racial Reconciliation Awards Presented

ATLANTA (BP) — Eighteen Southern Baptist leaders who have made "outstanding contributions to racial reconciliation" were honored during the first V. T. Glass Conference on Cooperative Ministries in Atlanta. W. P. Davis, of Jackson, retired state director of cooperative work with National Baptists, was among the 18.

"Southern Baptists often have recognized great preachers, but this is the first time recognition has been given to men who have fought for reconciliation across racial lines," said Emmanuel McCall, director of the department of Cooperative Ministries with National (black) Baptists at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The awards, sponsored by the department of Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists, are named in honor of Victor Thomas Glass, who worked in the department, first as an associate and then as a director, 1957-74.

The first award was presented to Glass for a "lifetime of service to National and Southern Baptist ministries of racial reconciliation." When the award was presented, Glass received a standing ovation from the more than 300 persons who attended the ceremonies.

Also honored were seven other denominational leaders, six retired state convention workers and four National Baptist missionaries who will retire in 1979.

An award was presented to Roland T. Smith, "the first black to have an executive position with the Home Mission Board." Smith was appointed as an associate to the "director of Negro work" in 1942 and served until his retirement in 1949.

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The April revival campaigns in hundreds of black and white Baptist churches in Mississippi, will be kicked off in Jackson at the Municipal Auditorium March 23, at 7 p.m. Featured speakers will be W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., and Caesar Clark, pastor of Good Street Baptist Church, Dallas. A 300 voice choir will be led by Calvin Thomas of Helm Baptist Church, Jackson, and J. M. Wood of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson.

Reporting Procedure For Five Fabulous Sundays

A weekly Associational summary of new Sunday School enrollees will be printed in the Baptist Record during the month of April.

The Sunday School department is finalizing arrangements with each Association to obtain this information. A responsible person, either the Director of Missions or Associational Sunday

School Director will receive reports from the churches no later than Monday morning.

Each Association will utilize a reporting plan unique to individual Associational requirements.

This may consist of churches reporting to a central location, the churches being contacted from a central location, or a group plan with one person responsible for contacting no more than the churches.

A weekly reporting of new enrollees will encourage the enrolling of at least one new person in each church on each of the FIVE FABULOUS SUNDAYS in April.

Also, an Associational summary will serve as a gauge for motivation in reaching our goal of 10,000 new persons enrolled during FIVE FABULOUS SUNDAYS in April.

WMU

Seminars Will Give Growth Guidance

Setting guidelines for communication, use of time, and goals and priorities, is the purpose of a series of

woman's seminars beginning in March.

The seminars, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, will offer suggestions for personal growth, fulfillment

in life and on the role of woman in the home, church, and community.

March 26 is the first date for the seminars. The rest are in May. The March 26 session will take place at First Baptist Church, Louisville. Each session will convene 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6:30-9 p.m. The other sessions will be

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Missionaries

In Grenada Safe

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (BP) — Rebel leaders claimed to have gained control of Grenada, March 13, but all six Southern Baptist missionary personnel are reported safe.

Reports trickled in concerning the reported coup on the Caribbean island, indicating at least two persons have died in fighting. A telex message from missionaries said Southern Baptist personnel "are well and in no danger."

Missionaries in Grenada are Carter and Charlotte Davis of Tennessee; Manget and Elaine Herrin of Georgia, Alabama and Florida; and Kenneth and Sylvia Wellmon of South and North Carolina.

Volunteer Possibilities To Be Discussed In Meets

Mission work possibilities for lay persons and for Royal Ambassadors will be discussed during a series of Mission ministry awareness conferences March 26 and March 27 in nine Mississippi cities.

Following is a listing of dates, places, and leaders for the discussions of missions for lay persons and for Royal Ambassadors, in that order:

March 26, FBC, Senatobia, Trent Grubbs of Crenshaw, David McCubbin of Meridian; March 26, FBC, New Al-

bany, Bill Smith of Nettleton, and Bill Crider of Tupelo;

March 26, FBC, Greenwood, Lewis Myers of Cleveland; March 26, FBC, Lexington; March 26, FBC, Starkville, John Doler of Starkville, and Doug Day of Starkville; March 26, FBC, Gulfport, Paul Vandercrook of Pascagoula, and Paul Aultman of Ocean Springs;

March 27, FBC, Clinton, Nat Bullock of Jackson, and Dan Wynn of Jackson;

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Simultaneous Revivals Spread Over Entire State

Here's a partial listing by association of Mississippi Baptist churches holding simultaneous revivals.

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Ackerman	Apr. 1-7	Joel Haire	Dan Thompson
Bethlehem	Apr. 1-7	J. N. Holloway	J. N. Holloway
Bluff Springs	Apr. 1-7	Ralph Stallings	Ralph Stallings
Blythe Creek	Apr. 1-7	Jerry Gue	Danny Bryant
Chester	Apr. 1-7	Randy Hogue	Gwynn Middleton
Clear Springs	Apr. 5-8	W. T. Holloway	W. T. Holloway
Covenant	Apr. 1-7	Wayne Howard	Wayne Howard
Crape Creek	Apr. 1-3	Johnny Strickland	Johnny Strickland
Cross Roads	Apr. 1-6	R. G. Dorroh	R. G. Dorroh
Fellowship	Apr. 1-5	W. K. Richardson	W. K. Richardson
Fentress	Apr. 8-12	B. B. McGee	B. B. McGee
French Camp	Apr. 1-6	Andy Kay	W. C. Foster
Hopewell	Apr. 1-6	Roger Griffin	Roger Griffin
Mt. Moriah	Apr. 1-6	George Pitts	George Pitts
Mt. Pisgah	Apr. 1-6	Allan Hawkins	Allan Hawkins
New Haven	Apr. 1-6	Mike Welch	J. C. Hawthorne
New Zion	Apr. 1-6	W. C. Burns	E. D. Richardson
Old Mt. Pisgah	Apr. 5-8	Jessie Duncan	Jessie Duncan
Providence	Apr. 1-4	W. T. Holloway	W. T. Holloway
Weir	Apr. 1-6	Buford Usry	Clarence Mayo

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Mt. Olive, First	Apr. 22-27	George King	Foy Killingsworth
Whitesand	Apr. 22-27	Jerry Estes	Billy Greene
Prentiss	Apr. 15-20	Jimmy McGee	David Michel
Hepzibah	Apr. 29-May 4	John Barnes, III	Toxie Hedgepeth
Collins	Apr. 22-27	Bob Mounts	Joe Ratcliff
Bassfield	Apr. 27-29	Harold Bryson	Tommy Arinder
Society Hill	Apr. 15-20	Charles Culpepper	Ray Henry
Mt. Horeb	Apr. 27-29		Jim Roberson
Carson	Apr. 19-22	John Hiron	Larry Palmer
Cold Springs	April 22-27		Gilbert Wendt

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Bellehaven	Apr. 22-29	Mel Mason	Larry Tapp
Fort Bayou	Apr. 22-29	Bob Broadway	L. J. English
Helena 1st	Apr. 22-29	Howard Browning	Gerald Hegwood
Ocean Springs	Apr. 22-29	N/A	Paul D. Aultman
Parkway	Apr. 22-29	Herman Merritt	Kenna Byrd
Jackson Avenue	Apr. 22-29	Randy Hardeman	Paul Kirke
Belle Fountain	Apr. 22-29	Sidney Murphy	Claude H. Stone
Calvary	Apr. 22-29	Bob Barker, Sr.	Byron Mathis
Hurley	Apr. 22-29	Jim Clark	Danny Forest
Pascagoula 1st	Apr. 22-29	Ray Robins	Clark McMurray
Moss Point 1st	Apr. 22-29	Bill Nimmons	Bobby Perry
Cambridge	Apr. 22-29	Bill Barton	Al Green
Eastlawn	Apr. 22-29	N/A	Roscoe C. Wentworth
Temple	Apr. 22-29	N/A	Athens McNeil
Griffin Street	Apr. 22-29	C. B. Raley	Felix Greer, Jr.
Vanceave 1st	Apr. 22-29	Rodney Taylor	
Ingalls Avenue	Apr. 22-29	Rob White	Lynn O. Mackey
Southside	Apr. 22-29	Warren Langworthy	Bill Renick
Lemoyne	Apr. 22-29	James Mashburn	Donnie Guy
Wade	Apr. 22-29	Billy Wayne Morris	Joey Hancock
Arlington Heights	Apr. 22-29	Richard Harris	Jerry Davidson
Riverside	Apr. 22-29	Earl Watson	William M. Moore
Red Creek Union	Apr. 22-29	James Hitt	Curtis I. Miller
Woodhaven	Apr. 22-29	Zeno Wells	Thomas Byrge
Graceland	Apr. 22-29	Donnie Boutwell	Bobby Poyne
Pineview	Apr. 22-29	N/A	Zeb Brister
Unity	Apr. 22-29	Allen Webb	Ray Moncreif
Martin Bluff	Apr. 22-29	James Gibson	A. J. Pace
East Moss Point	Apr. 1-6	Patton Moore	Steve Knight
Midway	Apr. 29-May 4	Ralph Young	James W. Haynes
Emmanuel	Apr. 16-20	Individual Deacons	Van Hardin
Franklin Creek	Apr. 1-6	Van Hardin	
Four Mile Creek	Apr. 16-20	Mack Hodge	Donny Boutwell

Church	Date
Morrison Chapel	April 1-4
Calvary	April 1-5
Shaw	April 1-6
Skene	April 1-6
Yale Street	April 1-6
Boyle, First	April 1-6
Midway	April 1-6
Immanuel	April 8-12
Gunnison	April 8-13
Providence	April 8-13
Trinity	April 8-13
Merigold	April 11-15
Cleveland, First	April 22-26

Church	Date
Askew	Apr. 1-6
Batesville First	Apr. 1-6
Calvary	Apr. 1-6
Como	Apr. 1-6
Courtland	Apr. 8-13
Crenshaw	Apr. 8-13
Curtis	Apr. 8-13
Easley Memorial	Apr. 1-6
Enon	Apr. 1-6
First Faith	Apr. 1-6
Good Hope	Apr. 8-13
Immanuel	Apr. 1-6
Liberty Hill	Apr. 8-13
Mclvor	Apr. 8-13

Church	Date
Alva	Apr. 12-14
Bluff Springs	Apr. 8-12
Clarkson	Apr. 12-19
Cross Roads	Apr. 8-13
Edgeworth	Apr. 1-14
Harmony	Apr. 1-3
Mathison First	Apr. 1-7
Mt. Vernon	Apr. 1-8
Mt. Zion	Apr. 8-14
New Hope	Mar. 30-Apr. 1
Pilgrim's Rest	Apr. 12-15
Reed's Chapel	Apr. 1-7
Tomnolen	Apr. 1-7
Walthall	Apr. 1-7
West Shady Grove	Apr. 1-7

Church	Date
First Iuka	April 8-13
First Belmont	April 8-13
Calvary	April 8-13
Central	April 8-13
Bethlehem	April 8-13
1st, Burnsville	April 8-13
Highland	April 8-13
Newprospect	April 8-13
Eastport	April 8-13
New Salem	April 8-13

Bolivar

Evangelist	Pastor
Larry Garner	Wayne Gullett
John McMullen	Robert Hill
William Berry	Lewis Gooch
Tom Espy	Jerry Allen
Ernest Sadler	Bobby Walton
Jim Dobson	Harvey Webb
James E. Holt	Ernest Newsom
Robert Brown	James A. Hurt
Adron Horne	S. W. Davis, Jr.
Sam Douglas	I. L. Hill
Everett Martin	H. V. Hardin
Mike McGinnis	Roland Smith
Paul Burelson	Macklyn Hubbell

Panola

Evangelist	Pastor
Larry Badon	Howard Armstrong
Jimmy Jackson	Robert E. Self
Billy Williams	Floyd Higginbotham
Jimmy Bryant	Duall Corbitt
W. D. Burns	J. E. Thurmond
Duall Corbitt	Trent F. Grubbs
Trent Grubbs	W. O. Burns
Eugene Howell	John T. Flippin
Paul Blanchard	James Smith
Michael Street	Wesley Nicholas
G. E. Jolley	Leonard Russell
Jimmy Furr	Dan Stroud
G. E. Jolley	James Lee Bailey
	Tommy Durrett

Webster

Evangelist	Pastor
Paul Weddle	Paul Weddle
W. L. Yeager	J. W. Nolen
Troy Land	W. L. Yeager
James Jeffreys	Harold Bennett
Richard Morman	Richard Morman
Billy Little	Billy Little
A. M. Moore	Higdon Herrington
R. L. Jordan	
Billy Baker	Bryan Sherman
James Bryant	Dale Easley
Glen Putman	Billy Little
H. B. Campbell	H. B. Campbell
J. B. Rowe	J. B. Rowe
W. S. Weddle	W. S. Weddle
Lowell Johnson	Billy W. Baker

Tishomingo

Evangelist	Pastor
Bill Cox	Charles Dampeier
G. C. Sansing	Jack Maroon
Glenn Weekly	Tom Ozburn
John L. Bedford	W. L. Oaks
Hulon Chanley	Billy Credille
Randy Isbell	Davie Smith
Jimmy Bryant	Cecil Stepp
Donald Graham	A. J. Blunt
Different speakers	G. D. Jones
Joe Mayers	Joe Mayers

Hinds-Madison

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Alta Woods	April 1-8	Bill Pinson	Charles Myers
Briarwood Drive	April 22-29	Gene Garrison	Randel N. Trull
Broadmoor	April 23-29	Landrum Leavell	David Grant
Burch Hill	April 15-20		Kenneth Cook
Byram	April 22-29	Arzell Hyché	Henry Bennett
Byram, First	April 22-27	T. C. French	James Buie
Calvary, Jackson	April 22-29	Robert L. Magee	Joe H. Tuten
Canton, First	April 22-27	Perry Sanders	Louis F. Smith
Center Terrace	April 22-27	Ace McVay	Zack Wainwright
Clinton, First	April 22-25	Bill Baker	Bill Baker
Colonial Heights	April 8-13	T. D. Hall	Len Turner
Daniel Memorial	April 22-25	Byron R. Malone	Byron Malone
Flag Chapel	April 22-27	Galen Lassiter	Sonny Simpson
Griffith Memorial	April 22-25	James C. Madison	Wilson Winstead
Hanging Moss	April 15-20	James Wright	Cecil Bressell
Jackson, First	April 1-4	William Self	Frank Pollard
McDowell Road	April 22-25	Staff	John Hilburn
Midway	April 8-11	Gene Williams	W. Benton Preston
Morrison Hgts.	April 22-25	V. L. Stanfield	Kermit McGregor
Northwest Hills	April 22-27	Jimmy Furr	Robert McDonald
Oak Forest	April 22-27	Bob Overtoth	R. Thomas Hudson
Parkway	April 15-22	Cal Guy	William Causey
Pocahontas	April 22-27	Larry Garner	Mike Everett
Raymond	April 22-27	Larry Rohrman	Sam Mason
Ridgecrest	April 22-29	Jack Stanton	Julius Thompson
Ridgeland, First	April 22-27	Wayne Styres	W. Everett Martin
Simmons Mem.	April 8-15	Jerry Simon	Ralph Lee
Southern Hills	April 22-25	Vernon May	David T. Cranford
Southside	April 22-27	Jay Strack	Fred Fowler
Utica	April 22-29	Former Pastors	John Ed Snell
Van Winkle	April 22	John G. Brock	John G. Brock
Woodland Hills	April 1-4	Richard Lee	Fred Womack
Woodville Hgts.	April 29-May 2	Robert Naylor	James E. Scirrat
	April 22-27	Lewis Sewell	Carl Savell

Revivals Reported Individually

Bellevue (Lamar): March 18-23; Billy Crosby, evangelist; James L. Yates, pastor.

First Church, Nicholson (Pearl River): April 27-29; Tom Howell, pastor.

Byhalia Church (Marshall): March 30-April 1, Blue Mountain team, leading youth revival; Chancie Johnson, pastor; (Leading up to the revival, the men were responsible for the evening service on March 18 and youth will be in charge of the March 25 evening service.)

Prentiss Church: April 15-20; services at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., except Sunday at 11 a.m.; Jimmie McGee of East McComb Church, evangelist; Cecil Harper, music consultant and evangelist of Jackson, singer; David Michel, pastor.

Paris (Lafayette County): April 23-27; Clarence Reeves, Jr., pastor; different evangelists nightly.

Awards Presented

(Continued from Page 1)

ern Seminary; Foy Valentine, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, whose "ministry has been a constant reminder to Southern Baptists that they are not really Christian until they have dealt with the matter of race"; Guy Bellamy, who served as director of the HMB work from 1949-65 "from the turbulent years after the Supreme Court decision in 1954 into the midst of the civil rights movement"; W. R. Grigg, who was an associate in the department from 1965-75 and served as director of state convention work in Louisiana and North Carolina from 1963-65; McCall, who has been director of the department since 1974 and is said to be "the first black really to exercise staff authority."

The retired state directors of cooperative work of National Baptists who were honored are Julius Avery, who served in Florida; W. P. Davis, Mississippi; Durwood Cason, Georgia; Tom Pfeiffer, Louisiana; H. O. Hester, Alabama; and Murray McCullough, Florida.

Recipients of the awards were selected by the staff members of the cooperative ministries of National Baptists department but future recipients will be selected by the state directors of cooperative work National Baptists.

A new book published by the Home Mission Board, *His Heart Is Black*, by W. T. Moore, is about six of the award recipients: Guy Bellamy, Victor Glass, Wendell Grigg, William P. Davis, T. B. Maston, and Foy Valentine.

It Was A Good Year

(Continued from Page 1)

In other developments, 516 mission pastors and their churches yielded 9,480 professions of faith, 198 new churches were constituted by mission pastors, and 897 new Bible fellowships were established by mission pastors.

Language missionaries began work with five additional ethnic groups — Pakistani, Persian, Afghanistani, French-Canadian, and Dutch — bringing the total number of Southern Baptist ethnic groups to more than 35.

More Baptist Vietnamese congregations now exist in the U.S. than there were in Vietnam before missionaries were forced to withdraw. It is estimated that there are more Spanish speaking Baptist congregations in the U.S. than in all the rest of the world.

Chris Elkins, a Home Mission Board staffer who was formerly associated with the Unification Church, informed 53,440 persons about the "Moonies" through 237 conferences.

Christian social ministries missionaries conducted 37 Vacation Bible Schools in the Watts area of Los Angeles, resulting in 750 professions of faith.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service of the U.S. Department of State has asked the Home Mission Board for help in ministering to illegal aliens.

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions in 1978 grew 14.5 percent over 1977 to a total of \$12,282,228 — still short of that \$13 million goal — but an increase over the previous year's 11.3 percent.

During March the Southern Baptist Convention will attempt to top that record. The Easter offering for home missions goal is \$15 million, which would require more than a 22 percent increase over last year's receipts.

Seminars Will Give

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May 17 at First Baptist Church, Oxford; May 21 at Clarksdale Baptist Church; May 22 at First Baptist Church, Winona; and May 24 at First Church, Tupelo.

Leaders for the five seminars will be Charlotte (Mrs. Barry) Landrum, Bossier City, La., and Ethel McKeithen, Baptist Women Director, Mississippi WMU.

The programs are aimed at women age 30 and above. There will be divided conferences for ages 30-45 and 46 and older. Then the entire group will meet together.

Pre-registration is required at \$5 per person which includes a light snack. Send reservations in for intended seminar to Ethel McKeithen, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Athens (RNS) — A 21-year-old member of the Jehovah's Witnesses has been sentenced to 10 years in prison by a military court in Ioannina for refusing to serve in the Army.

How Does A Search Committee Work? — Hard!

By Mini Elkins
Religion Editor
Hattiesburg American

Brooks Wester has an insight into the operation of the largest nationwide evangelical body that most pastors and laypersons don't possess.

Wester recently completed the year-long task of heading a search committee to select the fifth executive secretary in more than 50 years, Harold Clark Bennett of Florida, for the Southern Baptist Convention.

Wester, who is pastor of First Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, was appointed for the role in February of 1978. Then at the meeting of the convention held last summer in Atlanta, Wester was elected chairman of the executive committee of the SBC, making him one of the most powerful and influential figures in the 13-million-member body.

In an interview Wester discussed his responsibilities and the work involved in selecting a staff leader for the convention.

After his appointment as chairman of the six-member committee, Wester said the search for the new executive secretary-treasurer for the SBC was begun by asking the 64 members of the executive committee for their support in prayers.

"We considered each person recommended, 43 in all, and sought additional information from references given on the data sheets. A good many later requested that they not be considered, when they found out their names had been submitted. They felt, for the most part, that they were in the place of service that God wanted them," Wester said.

The minister added that others did not meet the criteria, narrowing the list even more. By November, the committee had agreed on Bennett, 54, who has been executive secretary of the Florida Baptist Convention since 1967, to succeed Porter Routh, 62, who had served as the convention's secretary for 28 years.

Bennett agreed to a conference with the committee on the basis that it would be "exploratory, seeking God's will and under no obligations." After a

second conference, Wester said that both Bennett and the committee "sensed God's will for Bennett was in the position."

Wester said the committee evaluated Bennett's health, administrative ability, financial responsibility, involvement in a local church, his family and life and other criteria, and that he was approved in all areas.

Bennett and his wife were presented to the executive committee and other Baptist leaders, about 300-400 in all, at a Feb. 20 meeting in Nashville. Wester said the Florida Baptist leader drew a standing ovation from the crowd. "It

FMB Offers To Help Refugees

(Continued from Page 1)

point a special committee to study what assistance might be given to missionaries.

Until this year, the tax law has allowed an exclusion of up to \$20,000 per year of income earned overseas. The new law removes that exclusion and substitutes for it a number of special deductions, Overseas Division Director J. Winston Crawley explained.

To provide the same level of support for missionaries in 94 countries or territories, the board must provide widely varying amounts. Crawley said all of these factors must be considered by the committee, which met March 14 to begin its study of the complex problem.

The board also voted a 25 percent increase in the dollar allowances for missionaries traveling to and from their fields and for furlough freight expenses, effective Jan. 1, 1980. Crawley said no adjustment in these dollar allowances has been made in several years and the adjustment is needed to meet rising costs.

As a follow-up to participation by several staff and board members in the Consultation on Women in Church-Related Vocations last September, the board voted to hear an overview report in April on staff growth and the role of women in the organization.

It approved seven new Mission Ser-

vice Corps volunteers for service in Venezuela, Zambia and Hong Kong and an equal number of other long-term volunteers for four other countries — Turkey, Dominican Republic, South West Africa and Liberia. The service corps personnel bring to 59 the number approved for overseas service since the first such volunteers went abroad early in 1978.

Tentative approval was given to 22 young people who have volunteered for Mission Service Corps projects related to Brazilian evangelistic efforts, pending further screening.

The board also voted \$70,000 for home Bible study projects in five major Korean cities as part of the major city evangelization program in Korea. Florida Baptists, cooperating in the Korean efforts, are providing volunteers and almost an equal amount over a three-year period.

can be allotted for each agency.

The executive committee also works through any problems which may arise at the annual meetings, and refers them to a committee for study and then to the convention.

Wester said the executive committee has four stated meetings during the year: one in September, one in February, one prior to the convention and one immediately after the convention, both at the same site as the convention. The members are elected for four-year terms and can only be elected to two terms. The chairman serves a two-year term and cannot serve more than two terms.

Volunteer

(Continued from Page 1)

March 27, FBC, Newton, A. C. Johnson of Newton, and David McCubbin of Meridian; March 27, FBC, Brookhaven, Dan West of McComb, and Joe Waggener of Crystal Springs; March 27, Temple, Hattiesburg, E. L. Howell of Jayess, and David Perry of Columbia.

Each meeting begins at 7 p.m. and concludes at 8:45 p.m.

Tennessee

(Continued from Page 1)

and division manager of the First American National Bank in Nashville. The expensive housing complex was completed Feb. 1. The service corporation is asking approximately a \$22,000 founder's fee to move in and a monthly maintenance fee of approximately \$500, depending on the size of the apartment.

Brazilian Baptists Launch Promising Amazon Project

CURITIBA, Brazil (BP) — The Brazilian Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board has launched one of its most promising evangelistic projects in the Amazon jungle area.

Project Transitaipu will reach more than 22,000 people in the residential area of the expansive hydroelectric Itaipu Dam, being built on the Parana River, the eighth longest river in the world.

"These people can be readily reached with the gospel because they have not put down roots," said William Morgan, Southern Baptist Missionary helping in the project. "They're seeking friendships and want to find their place in the new area."

Transitaipu is part of the Transtotal series of evangelistic projects begun in 1974, in the transamazon area where workers are slicing a highway through the Brazilian jungle.

The series' name means spanning the Amazon area with total evangelism.

In phase one, 29 students in teams from five Brazilian Baptist seminaries surveyed the Itaipu Dam area for six weeks, conducted Bible studies, did personal witnessing, held open air group activities and weekly meetings. The team was encouraged when a woman accepted Christ as Savior on the second day of their trip.

"By the end of 1979 we hope to have a strong mission established and possibly be organized into a church as a

result of the work we are doing now," said James Loyd Moon, recent graduate of South Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary, who led the first phase. Most of the students have returned to seminary, but Moon and four others plan to stay for a year to consolidate the team's work.

Transitaipu will cost almost \$40,000, including the expense of supporting the permanent team for a year or until the Brazilian Baptist Home Mission

Board can send permanent missionaries to the area.

During the last five years of Transitaipu, 10 churches have been organized and about 700 people baptized. Several new Christians are preparing for the ministry.

"I feel more fulfilled now because of having the opportunity to help plant churches and do pioneer work," said Morgan, a 15-year veteran missionary from Tennessee. "It never gets old. We're always moving into new areas."

Camp Staff Positions Being Sought For Summer

Several summer staff positions are open for this year's sessions at Central Hills Royal Ambassador Camp at Kosciusko.

Positions include that of assistant director, program director, counselors, activity instructors, and staff assistants. Salary varies with the position.

The assistant director, according to camp director Rusty Griffin of the state Brotherhood staff, must be a college junior or senior with prior camp experience and able to deal with counselors in developing leadership and counseling skills. The program coor-

dinates and schedules activities.

Counselors must be high school graduates and will work with 10 boys in each camp session. Activity instructors will be needed with teaching skills one of the following areas: water sports, riflery, archery, and horse-back riding.

Staff assistants must be high school students who have completed the ninth grade. They will assist counselors and instructors.

Camp dates for the opening season at the boys' camp at Kosciusko include Camp staff training: June 11-15; sessions for grades 4-12: June 18-22, June 25-29, July 2-6, July 16-20, July 23-27, July 30-Aug. 3, Aug. 6-10; Dad-Lad Weekends for grades 1-3: July 20-21 and July 27-28; Staff week at camp will be Aug. 13-17.

For more information, contact the Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

Golden Gate Degree Receives Accreditation

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — The master of theology degree program at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary has received preliminary accreditation from the Association of Theological Schools.

The new program, offered to students next fall, will include training in biblical, historical, theological and missiological studies, and pastoral ministries.

Robert L. Cate, chairman of the seminary's advanced study committee, was delighted at the judgment, saying, "We are extremely excited about the preliminary accreditation our degree program has received even before it has gotten underway."

Delta Singers Will Appear At Gooden Lake

The Delta Singers will present "Let Me Tell You About a Man" at Gooden Lake Church, Belzoni, at 7:30 p.m. on March 29.

The three singers are Buddy Hampton, Alma Allen, and Sammy Crawford.

Buddy Hampton is a native of Belzoni, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Hampton and pastor of Emmanuel Church, Eunice, La. Alma Allen, alto singer, is pianist for the New Zion Church, Kentwood, La. Sammy Crawford, native of Isola, is education director at Fairview Church, Columbus.

The three have been singing together for four and one-half years and have recorded an album.

Camp Ridgecrest Leader Will Be In Jackson

Rick Johnson, director, Camp Ridgecrest for Boys, Ridgecrest, N.C., will show slides and discuss the summer camping program for boys ages 8-16 Wednesday night, March 28, at 7 p.m., First Church, Jackson in the Friendship Parlor.

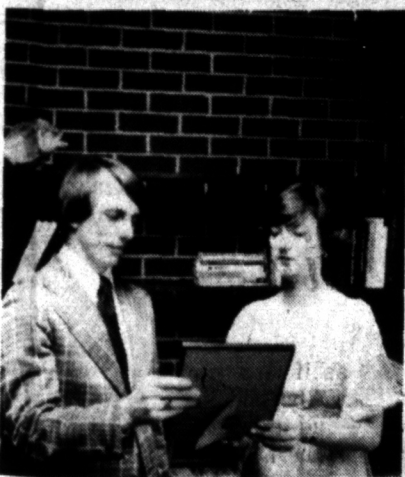
Camp Ridgecrest for Boys is an affiliate of Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Asheville, N.C.

New Work Award Goes To Pascagoula Church

The Home Mission Board's New Work Award was presented to the First Baptist Church of Pascagoula. The award was given in recognition of the church's action in beginning an International Sunday School Class.

Presenting the award to Bob Gray, minister of education, FBC, Pascagoula, in behalf of the Home Mission Board was the class's teacher, Fran Vandercook.

Mrs. Vandercook is a home missionary and has for several years directed a program of Conversational English Classes along the coast. It was out of one of these schools that the International Sunday School class began.



Bennett Of Southern Seminary Set To Speak

Willis Bennett, professor of church and community at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., will be featured on the program of two conferences on "Churches in Changing Communities."

The conferences, set March 26-27 at Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo, and March 29-30 at First Baptist Church, Columbus, will include three messages by Bennett, including "Theology of church and communi-

ty." "Creative Ministry in the Transitional Community," and "How to Change Attitudes in Local Church."

Jere Allen of the staff of the Alabama Baptist Convention will also be on the two programs which are identical. Allen will talk about the life cycle of the church and will present some case studies of churches in changing communities. Some Mississippi ministers will be on hand to tell of their experiences in such ministries.

For specific information on the conferences, contact Ray Grissett, Cooperative Missions Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Bennett

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Mississippi Baptist Activities

- March 25 High Attendance Night in Church Training
- March 25-30 Baptist Doctrine Study (Church Training Emphasis)
- March 26 Mission Ministry Awareness Workshop, 7-9 p.m. (Brotherhood) FBC, Senatobia / FBC, New Albany / FBC, Greenwood / FBC, Starkville
- March 26 Seminar for Women, FBC, Louisville, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. / 6:30-9:00 p.m. (WMU)
- March 27 Area Vacation Bible School Clinic, North, FBC, Grenada, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (SS)
- March 27 Mission Ministry Awareness Workshop, 7-9 p.m. (Brotherhood) FBC, Clinton / FBC, Newton / FBC, Brookhaven / Temple, Hattiesburg / FBC, Gulfport
- March 29 Area Vacation Bible School Clinic, South, FBC, Hattiesburg, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (SS)
- March 29 Seminar for Women, FBC, Greenville, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. / 6:30-9:00 p.m. (WMU)
- March 30-31 GA Mother-Daughter Weekend at Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 4:00 p.m., 30th-12 Noon, 31st (WMU)
- March 30-31 State Vocal Festival, Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, 7:00 p.m. 30th-9:00 a.m., 31st (Church Music)
- March 30-April 1 State BSU Leadership Training Conference, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, 7:00 p.m. 30th-11:00 a.m., 1st (Student Work)
- March 31 Kindergarten/Day Care Clinic, Woodville Heights, Jackson, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (CA-PM)
- March 31 State Youth Choral Festival, Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, 1:30-5:00 p.m. (Church Music)

WLBT Show Will Feature MC People And Scenes

A thirty-minute television program entitled "Mississippi College—It's the People Who Make the Difference" will be aired over WLBT television, Channel 3, in Jackson at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24.

Narrated by Judy Moon Denson, hostess for "Coffee With Judy" and a 1968 graduate of Mississippi College, the show will feature people and scenes that make up the Mississippi College community. The program is being directed by Billy Lytal, director of the Learning Resources Center on campus, and all production has been done by campus personnel.

Featuring the College's Concert Choir and the popular singing troupe, "The Naturals," the program focuses on students and the important role they play in the life of the college. It

stresses the close relationship between faculty and student and emphasizes the Christian influence which permeates the campus in general.

Special interviews will be conducted with Howard E. Spell, dean and professor of Bible emeritus, who will talk on the various academic programs; Orvell Hooker, coordinator of Personnel Training and assistant professor in the School of Business and Public Administration, who will discuss Continuing Education; and Phil McCarty, professor and head of the Department of Religious Education, who will give the purpose of Mississippi College.

The president of the Student Body Association, several of the outstanding athletes, and other students will also be featured throughout the program.

RA Congress Expects 1,000 Boys In Clinton

The state Brotherhood Department is expecting 1,000 boys in Clinton at the A. E. Wood Coliseum in April for the annual Royal Ambassador Congress.

The Congress takes place April 13-14 at Mississippi College featuring a Royal Ambassador state basketball tournament, a Crusader track and field meet, a missionary to Africa and the world's yo-yo champion.

Featured on the program will be Bunny Martin of Texas who has performed his tricks with the yo-yo on several television programs and appeared on stage around the country.

He will be joined on the program by Larry Cox, missionary to the Ivory Coast, West Africa. Plus there will be John Stroud, basketball player from the University of Mississippi.

Music for the congress will be led by Ricky E. Kennedy of Bethel Baptist Church, Hazlehurst.

Each person will need to bring a

sleeping bag or bed roll. Camp Garaywa and Alumni Hall at Mississippi College will be used for lodging. The first 287 people to register, may



Martin

stay at Camp Garaywa, sleeping on beds and eating in the cafeteria. After this number, registrants will sleep on the gym floor of Alumni Hall, and eat in the college cafeteria. If you prefer to stay on the college campus, please specify on registration form.

Camping facilities are available at Camp Garaywa, with meals to be taken at the dining hall there.

Registration is \$2 per person. Total cost of the program is \$10 per person. Write for reservations to Brotherhood Department, Royal Ambassador Congress, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

NBC Students To Meet In Jackson

The 34th annual National Baptist Student Union Retreat takes place March 22-25 in Jackson. More than 1,500 students are expected to attend.

Hickman Johnson, pastor of Jackson's Farish Street Baptist Church will be Bible study leader.

Other speakers include E. A. Freeman of Kansas City, Kans.; Mrs. Barbara Richardson of Greenville, S. C.; Nathaniel "Rock" Milton of Atlanta; and Henry Lyons of St. Petersburg, Fla. J. H. Corbitt of Greenville, S. C., is national director. Milton is a former Southern Baptist US-2 missionary to Baltimore.

Seminars for the convention include such topics as "How to develop and maintain an effective prayer life," "Ministering to blacks on predominantly white campuses," and "Can abortion ever be sanctioned by the church?"

Registration takes place at the Downtown Holiday Inn in Jackson beginning at 10 a.m., March 22. The first session begins Friday, March 23 at 9:30 a.m.,

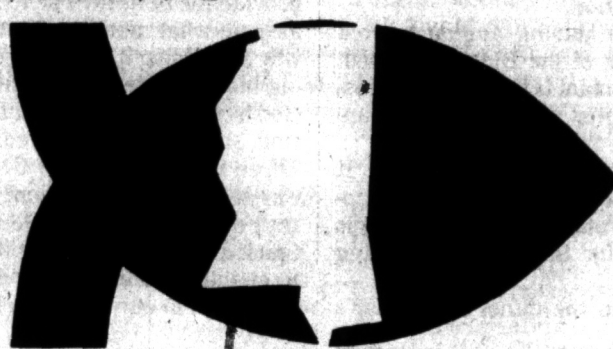


Church Builders From Starkville

Last summer these 15 families from First Baptist Church, Starkville, traveled to Gardiner, Mont.,

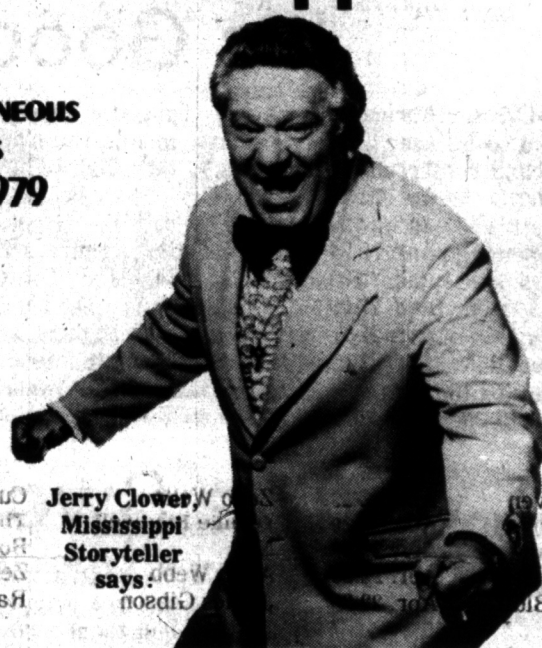
to help build a church, conduct survey, and help with the promotion of and leading of revival services.

GOOD NEWS



Mississippi

SIMULTANEOUS REVIVALS April 1979



"Us folks in Mississippi are gonna see something that has never happened before. In April the white Southern Baptist churches and the black National Baptist churches are gonna have simultaneous revivals to tell everybody in Mississippi about Jesus Christ. So if you go to a white Baptist church, or a black Baptist church, you get all that Good News at one time, and if you ain't going to any Baptist church, you go in April and find out what's good. Take it from old Jerry and learn how great it is to be a Christian."

Good News Mississippi is a joint campaign of black and white Baptist churches to present the gospel message of Jesus Christ to the people of Mississippi.

NOW AVAILABLE TO AGES 64 AND OVER
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Immediately—No waiting periods
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Helps pay what Medicare doesn't pay for hospital confinement.
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For Full Information, Fill out coupon and Mail To:
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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Best Wishes To The Kellys

Much could be said about the marriage of Marjorie Rowden, vice-president at William Carey College, and Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Little could be said, however, that would add anything to what is already

known and felt. They are two of the best known and highly respected persons in Mississippi and indeed among Baptists in the nation. Both are greatly loved people among those who know them.

Both lost deeply loved companions by death earlier. Their marriage

seems a fitting episode in lives of service to the Master. Marjorie was a career foreign missionary until the death of her husband. Dr. Kelly has spent many years in the pastorate and denominational work.

Thus without doubt we speak the sentiment of the entire Baptist popula-

tion of Mississippi and far beyond when we say to them: Best wishes, and may the Lord hold you in His keeping through all the days of your lives together.

We know He will. He always has. He always will. Praise the Lord.

Church Training Emphasis . . .

Baptist Doctrine Study On Salvation

March 25 to 30 is Baptist Doctrine Study time, a Church Training emphasis. Baptist Doctrine Study is an annual emphasis, and this year's subject is Salvation.

Each year during January Bible study a book of the Bible is studied. Just as important is the annual discussion of a Baptist doctrine during Baptist Doctrine Study.

It is important to study the Bible. It is also important to study what Baptists believe about it and why. This is the reason for the Church Training emphasis.

C. B. Hogue, the author of this year's

study guide, is the director of the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board. The study begins with man's need for help that he cannot provide for himself. The first chapter looks at what man is doing to himself, why he is doing it, and where it is leading him. Chapter Two points out that God has always intended that his creation should be redeemed. Chapter Three is a study of how God acted in Christ to provide salvation; and Chapter Four discusses the role of the Holy Spirit in making us aware of our need, in enabling us to believe, and in sustaining us in our Christian life.

Chapter Five points out that people do not bring salvation to themselves but that God took the initiative in the birth, the death, and the resurrection of Christ. Man responds in repentance and faith.

Chapter Six discusses the language that is used to describe salvation, and the final chapter deals with the three settings in which Christianity expresses itself. These are the church, the home, and the community.

This is an emphasis that no church can afford to pass by. In studying the doctrine of salvation there will be

many Christians who will have their faith strengthened and will find new inspiration for sharing their faith with others. There will also be many who will be confronting the facts of the doctrine of salvation for the first time and will respond to the ministry of the Holy Spirit and take their places among the believers.

Apart from the very fact of salvation, which is to be studied, there is nothing more important than to understand what the Lord is saying to us through the Bible. This is an opportunity that is too valuable to be missed.

Bold Mission Thrust . . .

It's Good News In Mississippi

If Bold Mission Thrust remains only a phrase to be used in convention themes and conference discussions, we would be better off without it. It must be translated into action to be worth anything at all.

Mississippi Baptists are working on plans to make Bold Mission Thrust come alive in our state in April. The last three issues of the Baptist Record have carried the lists of hundreds of churches in the state which will be en-

gaged in revival meetings during the month. There are many others, doubtless, that we have not heard about.

These lists are of churches affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention. There are churches affiliated with four National Baptist Conventions which will be engaged in revivals also. So there will be churches all over the state spreading the gospel of salvation to everyone who will listen.

This is Good News Mississippi.

It will start on the north at the Tennessee line and spread all down the state to the Gulf of Mexico. The 900,000 non-Christians in the state will have ample opportunity to hear that good news.

The kick-off is this Friday, March 23. Powerful preaching will be heard in the municipal auditorium as W. A. Criswell of First Baptist Church, Dallas, and Caesar Clark of Good Street Baptist Church, Dallas, deliver their

messages. A 300-voice integrated choir will be directed by J. M. Wood of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson and Calvin Thomas of Mt. Helm Baptist Church in Jackson.

There has not been another meeting such as this one will be. There has not been another simultaneous revival campaign such as this one will be.

We must make them count for the Lord's Kingdom.

The Swollen Jordan Lies Ahead

By Jimmy Hodges, Pastor
First Baptist Church, Waynesboro

The retirement of Dr. Baker James Cauthen is much more significant than is seen on the surface. This man has become an institution within an institution, a missionary machine that has ground out more missionary concern and action than perhaps any other Southern Baptist in history.

Fresh from the China-mission fields, he brought an enthusiasm and zeal to

the Baptist mission movement that has not stopped accelerating for a quarter of a century. One needs but to look at the statistics relative to money and personnel to appreciate the work of Baker James Cauthen.

The committee of fifteen to secure his successor does well to plead for prayer. Who else but this good man would preach with tears rolling from his eyes for people to cross seas for Christ? Who else would have the fortitude to stick to his guns of conviction,

even when being opposed by members of the Foreign Mission Board, when he believed he was right about missionary advancement? Who else would forget his health, his family, his personal aggrandizement to crusade across this nation to sell each Southern Baptist on missions? The answer is obvious: Few.

What a shame that this veteran shoulder of the cross must lay aside his armor. What a predicament we find to be ours in seeking one to fill his shoes.

But our God is master of the moment, and surely He has a Joshua to succeed this Moses of our day. The swollen Jordan lies ahead.

This must be a time when personal preference is laid aside, when friendships are forgotten and no one is chosen by bias or by deference. The choice must be objective. Denominational politics must be put aside.

Before settling upon one individual, let us be sure that the selection has been made by God, not man.

William W. Stevens . . .

A Tribute To A Professor

By Don Nerren

I met him first in 1963, when I enrolled as a freshman at Mississippi College. I could tell from our first meeting that this was a very learned man and was one who walked with God. After spending many hours at his feet over the next years, I found this all to be true.

He was appointed to be my counselor and thus he became my friend. There was never a time that I needed him that he was not totally available to me. He was strong like iron but his heart was given to others. He gave his all to teach others the Word of God. He never used a note but always taught directly from the Bible. His speech was articulate and his emotions very real. He spoke with authority and yet his words were words of compassion and love. He told the same old "corny" jokes from semester to semester and laughed as though he had never told

them before. Yes, his emotions were real. I saw him smile when I mispronounced a Greek word and weep openly as he related the story of Calvary and his salvation experience to our class.

He was a man of prayer. Never did he counsel with me that we did not pray together. I once went to see him late in the afternoon. He had been teaching all day long and I am sure he was very tired. His door was opened so I didn't knock. Yet, on my way in I heard him talking. I waited in his outer office, thinking he was counseling with another student. It didn't take me long to realize that he was talking to his Lord. I peeped in and there on his knees was this great and wonderful professor seeking counsel from the Mighty Counselor. To hear him teach one could well tell that this man had just come from the presence of the Master Teacher.

Every now and then God moves across the scene of history a very special man. This special man was Dr. William Wilson Stevens — a superb teacher, an accomplished and recognized author, a good husband, and a devoted father.

Heaven and eternity will only reveal how many precious souls have been touched by this man. He was here but a

brief time. He had so much more to do. He had so much more to offer, so many lives yet to touch. Yet God chose to place this great man with Him.

I thank God for Dr. Stevens. He was indeed a man of his time. His work, engrained in so many books and hearts, shall go on and on until Jesus comes. I just wish that every preacher could have touched lives with this man. I know those who did join me in this small tribute to our professor.

I would like to close by sharing with you one of Dr. Stevens' favorite poems. It was written by Robert Browning and it tells a great deal about the life and beliefs of Dr. Stevens.

Earth breaks up, time drops away,
In flows heaven, with its new day
Of endless life, when he who trod,
Very man and very God,
This earth in weariness, shame and pain

Dying the death whose signs remain
Up yonder on the accursed tree, . . .
Shall come again, no more to be
Of captivity the thrall.
But the one God, All in all,
King of kings, Lord of lords,
As His servant John received the words,
'I died, and live for evermore!'

Transportation At Houston

Editor: Houston Baptist University is looking forward to being a part of the Southern Baptist Convention when it meets in Houston June 12-14, 1979.

As a gesture of welcome and friendship to those attending the convention, Houston Baptist University will furnish transportation for Convention messengers and their families who will provide the following information in advance:

Name:

Address:

Date of Arrival:

Time of Arrival:

Airline:

Flight Number:

Hotel Name:

Transportation will be provided from Houston Intercontinental Airport to major Houston hotels. This service will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, June 9, and will end at noon, Tuesday, June 12, 1979. It will be necessary for us to have this information by June 1, 1979.

All correspondence should be sent to Dr. Barney Walker, Jr., Development



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

It's March In Mississippi

Blue enameled sky
edged in frothy white
gentle greening everywhere
pale yellow daffodils
kaleidoscopic coloring
splashed along the hills
winged flautists making melody
God made spring a watercolor day.

—Helen F. Monroe

Pontotoc

Have you ever dreamed that you wanted to run, and tried to move, but couldn't budge — as if your feet were stuck in molasses? This winter was so grey and cold and long and rainy that I began to feel it must be stuck and would just keep staying.

Then one morning in late February I saw one tiny yellowbell on an otherwise bare bush. And over in a corner, sheltered by the fence, one daffodil had dared to defy the cold. I was so elated that I rushed into the house to tell W. D. that it might be later than usual, but I did believe spring was coming again.

The next week hyacinths opened on the sunny side of a tree trunk. (The year of the Bicentennial I planted three hyacinth bulbs by the patio, and thought they would be red, white, and blue as advertised, but they are all white like the clump of lilies of the valley.)

All these little flowers, I noticed, are shaped like trumpets — maybe to herald the miracle of spring?

As March arrived, winter was definitely on its way out. One day the wind whistled and swirled and swept away the ragged remains of dead oak leaves in the backyard so that underneath I could see small tufts of green. The next day was calm and warm. Evelyn Keyes started saying, "If it doesn't rain this weekend we are going to fertilize our lawn."

Last week on the way to Laurel I saw a magnolia tree leaning over a fence. Beyond it a herd of black and white cows grazed in a hillside pasture of tenderest green. At a house down the road trees were blossoming in three shades of pink. I almost stopped to take a picture, but remembered I had black and white film which would never do the scene justice.

Suddenly Saturday the temperature soared to 80. Violets surprised me with a new carpet of purple. And I saw a robin.

Bees hum as they hover around the sweet-smelling nectar of the Christmas honeysuckle. The dogs are up early, sensing the excitement of a reawakening world, chasing squirrels and bluejays. Bullfrogs croak at the reservoir's edge. The air vibrates with the song of the blackbird and the redbird.

Everywhere on every limb pale green buds are poised expectantly, ready to unfurl.

Mississippi is a marvelous place, now that March is here.

Strange how the pastures of the soul grow greener when Spring starts— How hope can blossom like a leaf When Spring is in men's hearts.

—Mona Elaine Adilman

Letters To The Editor

Office, Houston Baptist University,
7502 Fondren Road, Houston, Texas
77074.

W. H. Hinton, President
Houston Baptist University

Book Store In Jerusalem

Editor: Perhaps you have read the feature article on the Baptist Book Store in Jerusalem in the February issue of The Commission. As manager of the Southern Baptist institution described in the magazine, I am sending out this call for help.

I want Baptist travelers — the armchair variety as well as the actual ones — to know about the store before they arrive in Jerusalem. I want them to think of it as their own store, their mission, project on a mission field. They should know that all the proceeds from purchases made in the store are invested in Baptist work in this country and in the surrounding areas.

Our limited budget precludes our placing regular advertising in your paper, yet my staff of eight and I want visitors from your state to know that we are here and are at their service. We want them to shop in clean, attractive surroundings (large enough to accommodate over one hundred persons at one time). We offer a great variety of quality merchandise including Bibles, books in four languages, olive wood and mother-of-pearl items, records, tapes, slides, post cards, brass and copper objects, silver and gold jewelry, and maps and guidebooks for pilgrims. Out of the dozens of book stores in Jerusalem, ours is the only one where so much is offered under one roof.

There is no pressure on the visitors to purchase anything at all. They can move freely about the store, browse, and make selections at their own pace. There is no need for bargaining since the prices are clearly marked on each item and are — across the board — the cheapest in the city.

We offer many extra services for the visitors: packing and delivery to hotels or shipping to anywhere in the world (we even ship purchases made

in other stores!); full-color catalog for mail orders to individuals, churches, and business concerns; arrangement of private showings after store hours to accommodate tour groups; advice on hotels and restaurants in the area; information about worship services in the city and about Baptist work over the country; contact with the Baptist Tourist Chaplain who lives in Jerusalem; acceptance of any kind of currency — cash, personal checks or traveler's checks; maybe most important of all, a place to sit, rest, listen to taped music, and "catch up" with themselves.

Thomas C. Nabors
Manager

Clothes For Village

Editor:

We have accepted a challenge to raise money to help buy spring clothes for the residents of Baptist Children's Village. Now we issue the challenge to all Mississippi Baptist youth departments: Try to outfit us as we try to outfit children at the Village. Target date: April 8.

John D. Williams, Youth III
Chairman Village Project
First Baptist Church
Hattiesburg, MS

Missed The Point

Editor:

I think that some people missed the point that the Bible makes on women. 1 Peter 3:7 says that women are the "weaker vessel."

1 Timothy 2:12-14 says that women shouldn't "usurp authority over the man."

1 Corinthians 11:8-9 states that the woman was created for the man.

1 Timothy 3 says that a bishop and a deacon should be men.

None of Jesus' 12 were women. There were no writings in the New Testament by women.

Peter said, "men and brethren," he didn't say women (Acts 1:16).

Bobby Carl Hill
Collinsville

Book Reviews

YES by Ann Kiemel (Tyndale House, \$5.95, 125 pp.) In her evocative prose/poetry Ann Kiemel says yes to Jesus in various circumstances of life — loneliness, singleness, obedience, purity, resisting temptation, being hurt, admitting guilt, fear, the daily cross. Ann, who has been high school teacher, church youth director, college dean of women, is now a full-time writer and lecturer. At least two days of each week she spends in her Boston neighborhood — "loving and changing her own special world for God." She

says that YES is her spiritual autobiography.

THE LOVE FEAST by Graham Kerr (Simon and Schuster, \$8.95, 256 pp.) Kerr, famous and popular food expert who wrote THE GALLOPING GOURMET and THE NEW SEASONING, prepared this new book, he says, as "a feast of love." In it he shows how new Christian faith inspired a pattern of eating that has increased his family's well-being and strengthened their

love. Kerr and his wife searched for a Christian approach to good food for family and friends and came up with a book of great ideas and delicious alternatives to the sweet, greasy, and over-salted foods on many of today's tables. They found "a way to feast without the inevitable side effects." THE LOVE FEAST is a true-life account of a family who changed their motive for eating. And it is a collection of recipes, and special notes, with nutrition profiles. Recipes are alphabetically indexed.

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Commission Presents Abe Lincoln Awards

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — The two top Abe Lincoln Awards were presented by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission to George Ann Victor, creative services director, KHOW Radio in Denver, and David Nelson, former vice president, WBBM, Chicago, and now vice president for station services, television stations division, CBS, New York.

Victor and Nelson vied for the top honors against six other outstanding broadcasters who were among a number of persons honored by the commission at the 10th annual Abe Lincoln Awards in Fort Worth's Tarrant County Convention Center.

Special guest was comedian Bob Hope, who received the Distinguished Communications Medal from the commission. Paul M. Stevens, president of the Radio and Television Commission, received a surprise Distinguished Communications Medal.

Stevens, whom the commission's trustees relieved of administrative control in early February and will retire on Oct. 31, also received the Golden Radio Award from WBAP Radio, Fort Worth, and a resolution from the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee.

Stevens, 63, was cited in the awards for his 26 years of service to the commission. He is the first religious broadcaster to receive the Golden Radio Award.

Victor received the Abe Lincoln Award in radio for her work in helping raise funds for the mentally handicapped. Nelson received the top award in television for his efforts in developing "Project Parenting," a program designed to encourage parents to better understand their children.

Both broadcasters were lauded for their "exemplary personal concern for their communities."

Several special awards presented at the Abe Lincoln banquet included a Christian Service Award to Tom Landry, coach of the Dallas Cowboys; two Distinguished Communications Recognition Awards jointly to The Grand Ole Opry and WSM (which broadcasts The Opry) and to Doris Ann, manager of religious programming, NBC; a Vincent T. Wasilewski Award to J. Leonard Reinsch of Cox Broadcasting Corp., in Atlanta; and a Railsplitter Award to John Fetzer of Fetzer Broadcasting Company in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Porter W. Routh, who will retire July 31, received an Award of Appreciation for his 28 years as executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and his support for the commission's efforts over the years.

Commenting on Bob Hope's award, James Holcomb, awards coordinator, said, "Bob Hope is a world figure who is unique in his compassion for the American serviceman and in his ability to make the world laugh even in its darkest hours. For four generations, his humor and personality have bridged the gap between every segment of American life." Hope is the first entertainer to receive the medal.

Guests and honorees at the banquet were entertained by country singer Larry Gatlin of The Grand Ole Opry. A video history of Bob Hope's early television appearances and an overview of The Grand Ole Opry were also special events of the program.

Top broadcasting executives who attended the banquet included Vincent T. Wasilewski, president of the National Association of Broadcasters; Robert E. Lee, of the Federal Communications Commission; and Julian Goodman, chairman of NBC.



Porter W. Routh (left), retiring executive secretary - treasurer, Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, received an Award of Appreciation from the Radio and Television Commission during the 10th Annual Abe Lincoln Awards program sponsored by the Commission. Sharing the spotlight with Routh was Tom Landry (right), coach of the Dallas Cowboys, who received a Christian Service Award for his commitment to Christ on the playing field and off. Congratulating the two men are comedian Bob Hope (second from left), who received the Distinguished Communications Medal (DCM), and Paul M. Stevens, Commission president, who also received a DCM. — Radio-TV Commission Photo



Smith County Bible Conference

Smith County Association Bible Conference in January included the above program personalities: John McCall, Vicksburg; Robert Barnes, Poplarville; Charlie Bryant, Raleigh; R. L. and Beth Sigrest, Yazoo City; Peter McLeod, Waco, Tex.; and Jimmy Anderson of Oklahoma. J. D. Grey, former pastor of First Church, New Orleans, was also on program.

Thursday, March 22, 1979

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

'At Home With The Bible' Introduced In Northwest

By Bracey Campbell

SPOKANE, Wash. (BP) — It was a strange setting for the delegation from the usually warm climates of Tennessee, Mississippi and South Carolina.

The foot-and-a-half of snow was a first for many members of the group who had come to introduce "At Home with the Bible" to Baptists in the northwest. Such a deluge of the white stuff would have closed their home towns for days.

So it was with delight and surprise that the group was greeted by about 800 persons at the magnificent Spokane Opry House on a frigid week night and by about 200 persons the following night at a rally at the Victory Baptist Church in Des Moines, a Seattle suburb.

The rallies were planned by the Northwest Baptist Convention to introduce the new radio and television series — cosponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention — to the people of that area.

"This (the series) is the greatest thing I have seen from the standpoint of having potential to open this part of the country to the work that is being done by Southern Baptists," said Don Sills, pastor of a Baptist church in Spokane.

Sills organized the rallies, flying to Nashville, Tenn., and then to Jackson, Miss., to visit with Frank Pollard, host of the series and pastor of the city's First Baptist Church.

Sills, one of many bi-vocational pastors working in what he calls an "unparalleled opportunity" for evangelical work, said people in the northwest are not "church oriented."

The pastor said the first information he received on the series, which pre-

miered in October and is now being broadcast via cable and commercial television and radio stations into more than 1,500 cities and towns, led him to believe that it offered the potential to awaken this part of the country.

"The opportunity for piping this program into homes via television or radio, following that up with the free literature that is available from the Sunday School Board and then connecting those people with the local churches has all of us in the Inland Empire Baptist Association excited," he said.

Sills said the series gives Southern Baptists opportunity to overcome their "greatest weakness in the Pacific Northwest — exposure."

The Washington residents who braved the elements to attend the rallies were shown one of the 30 minute segments and heard from Chester Russell of the Sunday School Board, explaining the origin and the possibilities for the series.

Pollard, a Texas native, told the Washington audiences that God has a purpose in every life. "And I am certain that he has a purpose for you out here in this beautiful country to expand his work."

Pollard said the series was the "boldest step" he has seen Southern Baptists undertake in their Bold Mission Thrust effort, designed to share the gospel with every person in the world by the year 2000.

"People out here — and people everywhere — hunger for something they can trust. Here is a new way... a great way... to expand the only message the world has ever known that has never failed to live up to its eternal promise of life and hope," said Pollard.

Soccer In Clinton Began With Kolbs

CLINTON — It began about four years ago with the Kolb brothers. They came to Mississippi College from Brazil where their parents are missionaries.

Carl and Jimmy had been nurtured on soccer like most resident Americans grow up with football. It was the only major sport played at their school.

But when they arrived in Clinton, there was no soccer team of any kind. With the help of a few guys who just wanted to play, they formed the first Mississippi College team. For two years, the Kolbs and their cohorts were tops in the state.

Now the competitors are more numerous and the rivalries much more intense. Soccer is catching on as fast as if Americans had just invented the game.

According to Rodney Spears, president of the Mississippi College Soccer Club, MC has a natural reservoir of soccer talent — missionary kids.

"Many teams depend solely upon foreigners because they're the only ones who have had experience playing," says Spears. "Our guys are American citizens. They've just lived in other countries for part of their lives."

"Our captain is Steve Kellogg, an MK from Kenya. He's attending seminary now but took up collegiate soccer at Westmont College in California. He played with the 1973 NAIA champions

and was nominated for All-American."

Spears continued, "The missionary kids form the nucleus of our team. Our goalkeeper, Peter Lee (France), is the best I've seen in Miss., La., or Ala. We also have Tim Glaze (Argentina), Mark Stamps (Nicaragua), Tommy Marler (Guam), and John Trott and Bill Smith (Brazil)."

In addition to the MK's, the team also includes some non-Americans and some new-to-the-sport Southerners. Udo Hebel is an exchange student from Germany, while Skip (his Mississippi nickname) Nguyen is a Vietnamese refugee. But the roster also lists such domestic products as Lee Edwards of Greenville and Jim Martin of Clinton.

Spears thinks that the Mississippi College club is unique because of its large number of American players. "We have to get away from the idea that only foreigners can play soccer. That kind of thinking has held back both collegiate and professional soccer. We'll always depend heavily on our missionary kids here at Mississippi College. They're the best proof we have that Americans can play soccer, too."

I never weary of great churches. It is my favorite kind of mountain scenery. Mankind was never so happily inspired as when it made a cathedral. — Robert Louis Stevenson

New York Files 'Mail Order' Minister Suit

ALBANY, N. Y. (RNS) — The State of New York has filed a suit demanding an end to religious property tax exemptions for "mail order" ministers ordained by the California-based Universal Life Church.

More than 230 "mail order" ministers in Catskill towns, who have claimed and received tax exemption on their properties, have been called on to pay their current taxes and taxes owed in the last three years.

Over the opposition of the State Board of Equalization and Assessment, Kerwick granted religious tax exemptions in 1977 to 90 per cent of Hardenburgh's 236 residents who claimed to be ministers of the Universal Life Church.

The test case was sought not only for the mail order Church but to challenge property tax exemptions allowed for other religious groups, Hardenburgh officials said. One official claimed that more than 50 per cent of the land in some New York communities are tax-exempt.

Founded in 1962 by the Rev. Kirby Hensley, the Universal Life Church claims to have ordained more than 2 million "ministers" by mail and issued some 10,000 honorary doctor of divinity degrees at a charge of \$20 each.



Southwestern Singers Will Appear At Alta Woods

Southwestern Singers, a 49-voice choral group from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., will perform a concert of sacred music at Alta Woods Church, Jackson, March 25 at 11 a.m. Robert Burton, professor of conducting and music education at Southwestern, is conductor. The group comes to Jackson from Fort Worth, as part of a 13-city tour of the Southwest.

Included in the program will be "God's Command to Joshua," by Claude L. Bass, associate professor of music theory and composition at the seminary. This piece was commissioned to be written for the fall inauguration of Seminary President Russell H. Dilday, Jr.

SBC Launches Disaster Relief Training Program

KINGSTON, Okla. — (BP) — Southern Baptists launched a national training program for disaster relief specialists with a two-day conference for 82 persons from seven states at Lake Texoma State Park.

Seven disaster relief experts oriented half of the men on how to work effectively in meeting disaster needs as part of a state response team while training the others to organize and train associational teams to respond

meaningfully following disasters.

The goal is to organize disaster response teams in every association of Baptist churches in 1979, said Norman Godfrey of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, co-sponsor of the conference with the Home Mission Board and state Baptist Brotherhood departments.

About 4,000 Southern Baptist men responded to disaster relief needs for tornadoes, flash floods, ice, and hurricanes in 1978, Godfrey estimated.

Besides specialized training, the men from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee heard presentations on Southern Baptists' response to disaster relief. They also learned about the disaster relief roles of the American Red Cross, Federal Disaster Assistance Administration and volunteer organizations.

The state response teams were drilled in how to prepare for response, on-site and public communications, mass feeding, relating to volunteers, shelter management, and damage assessment.

Associational trainees learned how to organize volunteers, determine needs and resources, conduct church and manpower surveys and develop training resources.

Summer Missionary

Tambria Britton of Marion, Ark., student at Blue Mountain College, will be a BSU summer home missionary to the Northwest. She and 59 other 1979 BSU summer missionaries were listed in last week's Baptist Record, but her picture was omitted. The 60 were appointed by their fellow students from 26 campuses in Mississippi.



Clarke Shares In 'Education Store'

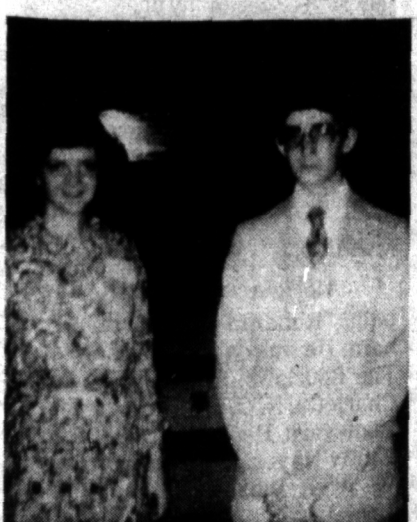
Clarke College president A. C. Johnson (left) was on hand for the opening of "The Education Store" in Meridian recently.

"The Education Store" is Mississippi's first educational information center. Mrs. Mary Kathryn Easom (right) of Meridian is manager of the "store" which is located in the Village Fair Mall.

Meridian Junior College received a grant of \$15,000 from the State College Board to organize a pilot education information center for an eleven-county area in East Central Mississippi. The purpose of the center is to provide information on all educational programs in the area. Clarke is the only denominational college participating in the project.

If successful, "The Education Store" will serve as a model for other centers in various sections of Mississippi.

State Keyboard Festival



Lillian Wadsworth, left, Clinton, was given Honorable Mention by the judges for her performance on the piano, and Lantz Harvey, Collins, right, was given Honorable Mention for performance on the organ.



The Judges Trophy Award-Piano went to Diane Pride, Jackson, right. Dot Pray, keyboard specialist, Church Music Department, left, made the presentation.



Lisa Parker of Holly Ridge Church won a Superior award in piano.

The State Keyboard Festival sponsored by the Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, was held Feb. 23 and 24 in the Coliseum at Mississippi College. During the festival four college scholarship awards were presented. They went to Jim Grantham, Jackson, top left; Randall Hall, Jackson, top right; Eddie Patton, Columbus, bottom left, and Sammy Polk, Gulfport, bottom right. Polk also won the Judges' Trophy Award-Organ.

Names In The News . . .

Mrs. T. C. Kincaid of Moorhead has returned to Mississippi from Japan, where she was on volunteer mission for a year on the staff of Zama Baptist Church. Charles Ray, missionary, and pastor of the Zama Church, has written a letter to the Baptist Record. He stated that he would like for the Moorhead Church, the Sunflower Association, Baptist Record readers, and the Foreign Mission Board, SBC, to know that the congregation of Zama Church and many others in Japan appreciated Mrs. Kincaid's service.

Ellen W. Sampey, 94, died Feb. 20 in Birmingham, Ala., following a lengthy illness. Mrs. Sampey was the widow of John R. Sampey, who served as president of the Southern Seminary, 1929-1942.



Timothy Madison Sharplin, left, of Forest, La., has been awarded the Joe Thomas Odle Scholarship for the current school session at Mississippi College, according to Van D. Quick, right, vice-president for Student Affairs. The Joe Thomas Odle Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of the only son of Dr. and Mrs. Joe T. Odle of Jackson, who died during his junior year at Mississippi College, is provided by members of the Odle family. The scholarship award is given annually to a member of the freshman class who has committed himself to a definite area of specialized Christian service. Sharplin, who is preparing for the ministry, was named most studious and Best Citizen at Forest High School. He was a member of the basketball team, and the recipient of the American Legion Award. He served as President of the Bayou Macon Youth Association and as a member of The Forest Baptist Church pulpit committee.

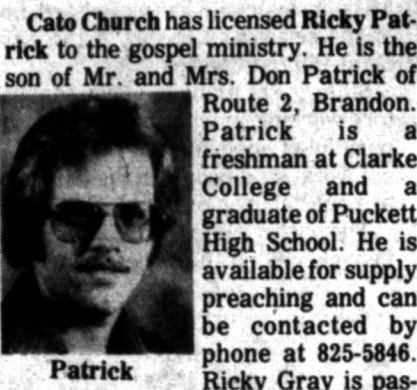


Liberty Church presented its pastor, Charles Holfield, left with a Certificate of Recognition on Feb. 4 for 30 years in the Gospel Ministry. Clay Caston, right, chairman of the deacons, made the presentation.

Arthur Leslie, director of missions, Marshall Association, spoke at Byhalia Church on March 9 at the church mission dinner, and showed slides of his trip to the Holy Land.

Jim Garrison, representative of the Gideons, was guest speaker at the Byhalia Church Sunday evening, March 11.

Durrell Edwards, pastor of Holcomb Church, presented certificates of ordination to Rodney Mainelli and Michael Whitten when they were ordained during a regular morning service at Holcomb.



Patrick

at Cato.

Cato Church has licensed Ricky Patrick to the gospel ministry. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Patrick of Route 2, Brandon. Patrick is a freshman at Clarke College and a graduate of Puckett High School. He is available for supply preaching and can be contacted by phone at 825-5846. Ricky Gray is pastor at Cato.

Warren S. Rogers, pastor of Antioch Church, Washington Association, Butler, Ala., since 1971, reports that the church, which is in a county near the Mississippi line, has bought new pews, cushioned in red, at a cost of \$3200. The project was declared debt free due to the contributions of members, former members, and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Smith, missionaries to Indonesia, are in Mississippi on furlough. They are living at 107 Barbara Avenue, Jackson, MS 39209.

Southern Baptist activist Anita Bryant has been voted Most Admired Woman in the annual poll taken by Good Housekeeping magazine, for the second year in a row. Many of the letters written in connection with the survey indicated that even persons who do not agree with Miss Bryant's views on homosexuals admire her for having the courage to express them in public. Another Southern Baptist, First Lady Rosalynn Carter, was ranked seventh in the annual poll. Events surrounding Miss Bryant's appearance at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference in Atlanta in June was named the top Baptist news story of 1978 by Southern Baptist editors. Other women who ranked high in this year's Good Housekeeping poll were: 2. Betty Ford; 3. Pat Nixon; 4. Mother Teresa of Calcutta; 5. Barbara Jordan; 6. Beverly Sills; 7. Rosalynn Carter; 8. Phyllis Schlafly; 9. Muriel Humphrey; 10. Queen Elizabeth II.

Teresa Hindman, a high school senior and member of the First Church, Louisville, has signed contracts selling several preschool songs which she had written to Broadman Press for use in the music curriculum for 1980-81. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Hindman, she has been writing music for several months and has produced over 50 songs.

Olive Riddell, emerita Southern Baptist missionary to China, died March 7 in Culpeper, Va., where she had been living at the Virginia Baptist Home. She was 90. Funeral services and interment were held March 9 at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Richmond, Va. Appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in June 1919, Miss Riddell did evangelistic work with women and girls in China and organized and coordinated Bible classes over a large territory until 1940 when World War II forced her to return to the United States. From 1942 to her retirement in 1953, she was an associational missionary in the Virginia mountains, working under the state Woman's Missionary Union.

At a recent meeting in the cafeteria at Bassfield, the Jeff Davis County Chamber of Commerce honored three 'people of the year' — all Baptist laypersons.

Woman of the Year for 1978 was Rebecca Berry Quinn, daughter of the late A. C. Berry and widow of the late C. R. Quinn. Mrs. Quinn has spent her life in active Baptist work. She was postmaster at Prentiss for several years.

D. W. Fortenberry of Devonwood Farm, Oakvale, was chosen Man of the Year. Educated at Texas A. & M. in animal husbandry, Fortenberry later began a career in soil conservation and remained in that profession until a few years ago when he retired from the Prentiss office. He and his wife Frenchie moved to their present location where he is a tree farmer and breeder of Devon cattle.

For 40 years Fortenberry has been a deacon and twice has been chairman of the Pulpit Committee. He and his wife are members of the Prentiss Church.

Bobby Riley was chosen Farmer of the Year. He is a member of the Prentiss Baptist Church.

Staff Changes

Thomas E. Albright has accepted a call as minister of music and youth at State Boulevard Church, Meridian. He graduated from Samford University, Birmingham, Ala. in Music Education. While in school he served in several churches in Alabama, the last being Ruhama Church in Birmingham. He was on tour for one year with The Sparrows, a singing group from Charlotte, N. C. before moving to State Boulevard. He and his wife, the former Emily Hayes, are from Birmingham. W. A. Robinson is pastor of State Boulevard.

First Church of Eudora, DeSoto County, recently called John Wayne Edwards as pastor. A graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary, Edwards goes to Eudora from Hopewell Church, Newton County. A native of Indiana, he is married to the former Patti Pierce of Amory. They have a four-month-old son, Scott Lee.

Dan Hall is the new education and youth minister at Madison Church, where Roy McHenry is pastor. He was previously minister of education at Second Church, Greenville.

Hall



Clarke Choir To Tour Four States

The Clarke College Choir will be on tour March 30-April 8, for appearances in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi, at churches and high schools. The members of the choir represent five states and are chosen by audition. The group is under direction of Clark Adams, acting chairperson of the Division of Language and Fine Arts at Clarke. Included in the repertoire, with Tammy Weger of Blytheville, Ark., as accompanist, are selections ranging from standard sacred music for the worship programs to lighter modern selections for the fellowship periods.

Simpson Youth Night Is March 24

Simpson Association will have an associational youth rally at First Church, Mendenhall, Saturday, March 24, at 7 p.m.

Tommy Anderson, pastor of Harrisville Church, will be the speaker. Special music will be furnished by the Co-Lin BSU Singers and Rel and Darlene Webber. A testimony will be given by Chip McQueen of Main Street Church and Co-Lin Junior College.

H. Glen Schilling is Simpson director of missions.

Jeff Davis Honors Three Baptists

At a recent meeting in the cafeteria at Bassfield, the Jeff Davis County Chamber of Commerce honored three 'people of the year' — all Baptist laypersons.

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Bobby Riley was chosen Farmer of the Year. He is a member of the Prentiss Baptist Church.

Senatobia Pastor Has 'A Way With Children'

By Neil Mara
(Reprinted from
Tate County Democrat)

For years now, John Flowers, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Senatobia, has been proving that the way to children's hearts is through their love of chewing gum.

How did he discover this little secret? According to Flowers, it's really no secret at all, just a good way to help children feel comfortable around him. He explains it this way.

"When I was growing up I was scared to death of the preacher. I wouldn't under any circumstances, go to him and engage him in conversation. I was even scared when he spoke to me. But when I went into the ministry I decided that I didn't want the youngsters afraid of me, so I started keeping gum in my pockets. And anytime they're here, or after Sunday services, they come up and speak to me and I always slip 'em a stick of gum (sugarless gum, by the way). It helps create a good rapport with the youngsters. Consequently they have no hesitation about coming into the study."

After all, coming into the study and talking is one of the main reasons he's there in the first place. And Flowers has been at the First Baptist Church for quite a while; 20 years now as compared to the average 18 months for a Southern Baptist pastor.

How does he account for such a long tenure? "We liked what we found here," he said, "and the people have been good to us. We've had a very fruitful ministry."

In recognition of just how successful his ministry has been, the Senatobia Chamber of Commerce, at its recent annual banquet, awarded Flowers the Outstanding Citizen of the Year award.

Getting the children's ear is not his only talent. He also keeps in touch with the grown-ups when they're shut-in at home or sick in the hospital, at Wednesday supper meetings at the new

Family Life Center, or if they're just having a birthday.

He keeps in touch with students while teaching courses at Northwest in philosophy, religion and in ethics. He said that he enjoys teaching philosophy because "it gives you an opportunity to explore philosophy in more detail than otherwise."

One of the problems that Flowers has found with philosophy is that "many, many people are afraid of it. I've discovered a lot of Christians who are skeptical of it," he said. He himself approaches the subject with firm convictions.

"As long as I have my own base, which is my Christian faith, to return to; I don't mind exploring ideas which may be diametrically opposed to the Christian faith," he explained.

"As I have said to my students there (at Northwest). Don't ever be afraid to let truth take you by the hand and let it lead you where it will."

Keeping in touch also includes one of the main tasks of any ministry: preaching. In his preaching, Flowers said that he tries "to meet the needs of the people here and now, to change their social situation." He sees preaching as an aid to helping people in their search for truth, in making their Christian experience practical.

Dr. Flowers is not all seriousness, however, and dabbles in some hobbies in his spare time. Collecting antique umbrella handles is one of his pastimes. "A friend of mine down in Como had a collection and he gave me one. I guess that's how I got started," he said.

And until it got out of hand, he said that he also was an avid antique bottle collector. "It got so large, it was either me or my bottles had to go," he said.

Flowers, who is a native of Mississippi, met his wife Mrs. Jesse Flowers while on a 30-day leave from the service in California. They have three daughters; Rebecca, who is married; Rachel, who is an art major at Memphis State University; and Ruth, who attends Delta State University.

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

T	H	E	O	R	D	E	R	E	C	O	N
H	O	L	I	G	H	O	S	T	R	U	T
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M	A	T	T	H	E	W	L	A	S	E	A
A	N	U	O	N	E	T	A	L	E	N	T
D	T	S	E	D	D	I	E	S	S		

"Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul" (Psa. 69:1).

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Just For The Record



VALLEY PARK CHURCH, will dedicate its new pastorium Sunday, March 25, at 11 a.m. Hollis Bryant, consultant, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Len Turner, former interim pastor, will be guest speakers. Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Lee Kirk of Indianola will share their testimonies. "What a Christian Home Means to Me."

There will be a fellowship dinner on the grounds following the dedicatory service. Open House will be from 2 to 4:30 p.m. for tours of the parsonage.

"The church is grateful to the Stevens Construction Company, Anguilla, for the quality of construction and splendid cooperation," states W. D. Kirk, pastor. "A special appreciation goes to Harold Hayes and Mark Stevens for their personal interest and expert craftsmanship."



WANILLA CHURCH, MONTICELLO, ordained four newly elected deacons on March 4. The new deacons are, left to right: ALTON LETCHWORTH, ROBERT CARROLL LEA, BILLY JOE BOUTWELL, and GEORGE GLENN TYRONE. R. G. BILBO of New Hebron brought the charge to the deacons and GEORGE LEE of Columbia, tri-county missionary, brought the charge to the church. ALTON FAGAN is the pastor. A reception was held in the fellowship hall honoring all the deacons of the church.

First Conversion In Foster Pastor Ministry At Mendenhall Nursing Home



Hugh Shoemaker and Mrs. Shoemaker serve as foster pastor and wife at the Mendenhall Nursing Home each Sunday morning for a Sunday School/worship hour period. Ricky Ladner and his mother, Mrs. Bobbie Ladner, are patients at the home. On Feb. 25 Ladner made a profession of faith and on March 4 his request was made known to Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, his home church, and they accepted him into the fellowship of the church on statement.

A Baptism Certificate was presented Ladner, left, by the Pleasant Valley pastor, Terry Runnels, right, in a special service on March 4 at the nursing home.

H. Glen Schilling is Director of Missions for Simpson Association.

Baptists, Catholics Participate In Dialog

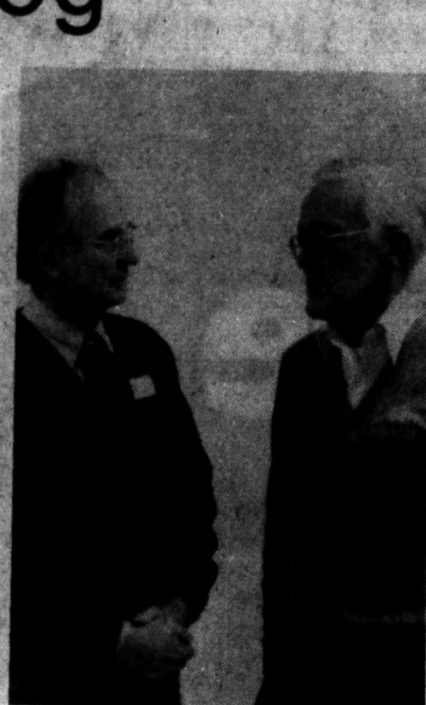
BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7
Thursday, March 22, 1979



Brooks Wester, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, leads a small group discussion. Next to Wester is Luther Newell, a staff member at Richland Baptist Church in Rankin County.



Bishop Joseph Brunini, carter, takes a break from the dialog.



C. Brownlow Hastings, left, assistant director of the Department of Interfaith Witness for the Home Mission Board, and Joe O'Donnell, Atlanta, a Glenmary priest, discuss the Baptist-Catholic dialog at Gulfshore which they initiated as a part of the continuing liaison efforts of each to work with other denominations, particularly the two involved in the dialog.



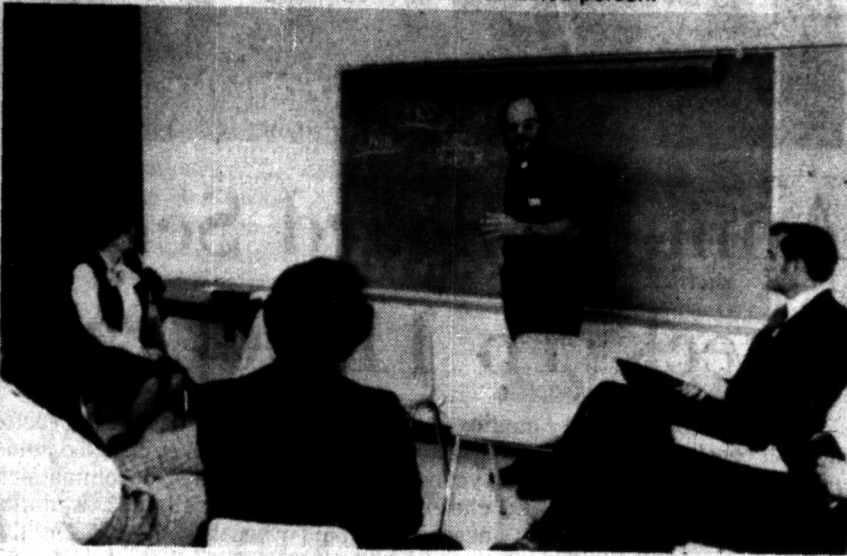
Earl Kelly, left, executive secretary-treasurer for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Father Joe Dilettuso discuss a point of doctrine during a break in dialog sessions. In the background can be seen Mississippi Baptist Convention President Bill Causey, pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, in discussion with an unidentified person.



Surrounded by Catholics is Bill Causey, second from left, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Relaxing with him during a break in the Baptist-Catholic dialog is Mike O'Brien, left, Jackson Diocese youth director. To the right are George Kitchin of Biloxi and John Izral of Wiggins.



Bishop Joseph Howze, bishop of the diocese of Biloxi, left, visits with Bill Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nettleton.



Joe Dilettuso leads a small group conference during the Baptist-Catholic dialog. At left is Bill Duncan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Long Beach; and at right is Bill Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nettleton.

SBC Is Tops In ABS Giving

NEW YORK — The Southern Baptist Convention, the largest Protestant body in the U.S., broke their own record of regular American Bible Society giving last year with contributions of \$309,204, an increase of \$57,296 from 1977.

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod advanced to second place this year with contributions of almost \$125,000. In third place was the United Methodist Church with \$103,500. The American Lutheran Church with contributions of \$96,500 and the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. with nearly \$84,000 achieved fourth and fifth places respectively.

Other leading contributors include the Lutheran Church in America and the American Baptist churches in the U.S.A.

FBC, Dallas Still SBC's Biggest Church

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — First Baptist Church, Dallas, still ranks as the largest congregation in the Southern Baptist Convention, according to 1979 rankings of the top 10 SBC churches.

The Dallas church, according to statistics through 1978, has 20,045 members, up from the 18,869 recorded when Baptist Press last released top 10 rankings in 1977 (based on 1976 statistics).

But, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., which led the Southern Baptist Convention in baptisms in 1978 with 1,012, moved up from fourth to second, rising from 9,935 to 12,217 members in two years.

It replaced Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., which recorded

11,407 members previously but dropped to 10,015 members in the latest statistics on the SBC Uniform Church Letter. Although Bellevue has averaged over 1,000 additions each year, it dropped back to fifth place because it cleared its roll of members which it could no longer locate, a church spokesman said.

All the churches in the top 10 (and three not in that group) exceed 7,000 in membership and 10 others top 6,000, but statistical breakdowns show that most churches in the 13.2-million-member SBC have under 300 in membership.

Statistics compiled from 34,989 churches which reported out of 35,404 in the nation's largest Protestant denomination show that 21,525 churches (61.5 percent) have 299 or less in their membership. Other breakdowns reveal 10,967 churches (31.3 percent) in the 300 to 999 range; 2,314 (6.6 percent) in the 1,000 to 2,999 range; 160 (.47 percent) in the 3,000 to 5,999 range; and 23 (.066 percent) in the 6,000 and up range.

Brazil Opens Mission Work In France

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — Foreign mission strides continue to be made by Brazilian Baptists as they mark the opening of their tenth mission field.

Of 51 Brazilian Baptist missionaries presently serving under the Brazilian Baptist Foreign Mission Board, 25 have been appointed in the last five years — including the latest, Pastor Paulo Roberto Sorio and family to Paris, France.

Brazil's foreign mission board is the most developed for a single convention among all the foreign national conventions with which Southern Baptists work, according to Winston Crawley, director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's Overseas Division.

The Sorios are the first Brazilian couple to work in a non-Portuguese-speaking country. Although the original request from France was for a

couple to work with Portuguese-speaking people, the Sorias have studied one year of French and plan to continue language studies to work also with French-speaking people.

Sorio, a former accountant and graduate of South Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary in Rio, gave up his accounting firm in 1969 and became active in denominational work. Then in 1976, the couple visited churches and Southern Baptist agencies and seminaries in the United States and were impressed with the vision and work of Southern Baptists. They felt a growing desire to become part of what they feel is a greater evangelistic effort.

It was on their return to Brazil that they committed their lives to foreign mission service and began preparing for France.

Bolivar AG Missions Will Send Summer Missionary To Venezuela

Bolivar County Agricultural Missions Fellowship plans to send Terry Thompson, student at Boyce Bible School, Louisville, Ky., to work this summer in Venezuela at the Bethesda Children's Home, Mena Grande, Venezuela.

Bolivar Association has bought a tractor for the farm which is a part of the children's home property.

Thompson is from Benoit. Don Smith is the SBC missionary who

works in Venezuela near the children's home.



Children And Conversion

"There's no such thing as an age of accountability," was the consensus of a panel of experts on the subject of Children and Conversion in a series of meetings in four Mississippi cities recently.

"We're really talking about a level of maturity," said Gene Chamberlain, third from left in the picture.

Others pictured left to right are Ethel McIndoo, Muriel Blackwell, and Elsie Rives. All four are in children's work with the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Other comments by the panel included "Conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit." "A person's motives must be free of external pressure," in making a decision to follow Christ, and "Every Christian adult has the responsibility to reinforce every child he touches in his positive responses to God."

Additionally, the experts told participants at the conferences that a pastor would help in children's work by developing with children in the church "an ongoing relationship at other than Vacation Bible School or revival services." One participant suggested

that the pastor could stand outside the children's department door some Sundays greeting children.

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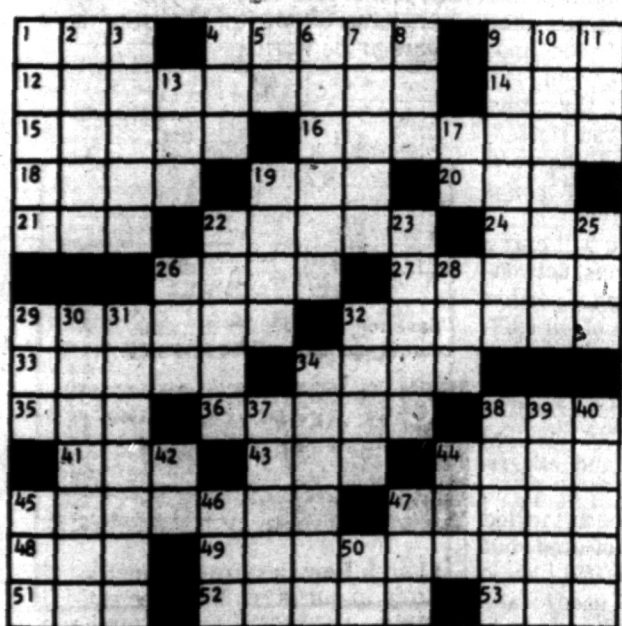
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Bible Puzzle

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52 Man's name
53 Strong soap solution:
abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Biblical pronoun
- 2 Trees of Ceylon
- 3 Wed without fanfare
- 4 King of Bashan (Num. 21:33; poss.)
- 5 Football player: abbr.
- 6 Gamaliel (Acts 5:34)
- 7 Man (1 Chron. 8:39)
- 8 Route: abbr.
- 9 Like red (Isa. 1:18)
- 10 "clean the — of the cup" (Luke 11)
- 11 Extreme
- 13 Chemical suffix
- 17 Egyptian god
- 19 Bladed weapon
- 22 Parties
- 23 Chemical compound
- 25 Man's name
- 26 — whale
- 28 Corn or gun
- 29 Units of weight: abbr.
- 30 Those saved (Rom. 9:27)
- 31 Chamberlain (Rom. 16:23)
- 32 Filthy place: poss.
- 34 Bolted slowly
- 37 "— your ways" (Jer. 7)
- 38 "the law of —" (Acts 28)
- 39 Man's name: poss. abbr.
- 40 Foods
- 42 Measure of distance: abbr.
- 44 Buddy
- 45 Insane
- 46 Gardening tool
- 47 New Guinea port
- 50 Asiatic tree

ACROSS

- 1 Article
- 4 "after the — of Aaron" (Heb. 7)
- 9 Pro's companion
- 12 "The — — shall come" (Luke 1)
- 14 Fixed practice
- 15 "with barbed —" (Job 41)
- 16 Brook (1 Ki. 17:3)
- 18 Neck part
- 19 French summer
- 20 Mornings: abbr.
- 21 Direction: abbr.
- 22 Wheel part
- 24 The thought of foolishness (Prov. 24:9)
- 26 Asaph (2 Chron. 29:30)
- 27 China manufacturer
- 29 "he came into —" (Acts 20)
- 32 "having — Paul" (Acts 14)
- 33 Praiseworthy quality
- 34 Distance from death (1 Sam. 20:3)
- 35 So — small
- 36 "the — shall cry" (Isa. 34)
- 38 Family member
- 41 Notation on some checks: abbr.
- 43 Pronouns
- 44 Minute opening
- 45 Publican (Matt. 10:3)
- 47 City (Acts 27:8)
- 48 Babylonian god
- 49 "which had received the —" (Matt. 25)
- 51 Drunkard's disease: abbr.

CRYPTOVERSE

QCSI JI U AUZ YUV OKI TCOIVQ CVI
XUJI NH FHOJ JP QUPR

Today's Cryptoverse clue: F equals U

(Answers on Page 6)



Up With Senior Citizens!

The Senior Adults of Parkway Church, Jackson, presented a musical experience for Senior Adults entitled, "Count on Us" on Sunday night, March 11. The director of the group is Mrs. Norma Raymick. Bill Causey is pastor.

Jeff Davis Adopts Arizona Project

By Kirby Tyrone
Jeff Davis Association and the WMU of the association met March 6 to promote Bold Missions. The program included a banquet and adoption of a Bold Mission project, better known as the Arizona (Laveen) project.

Franklin Hughes presided and asked for action on the project, which was unanimously adopted. Evidently a goodly number will participate.

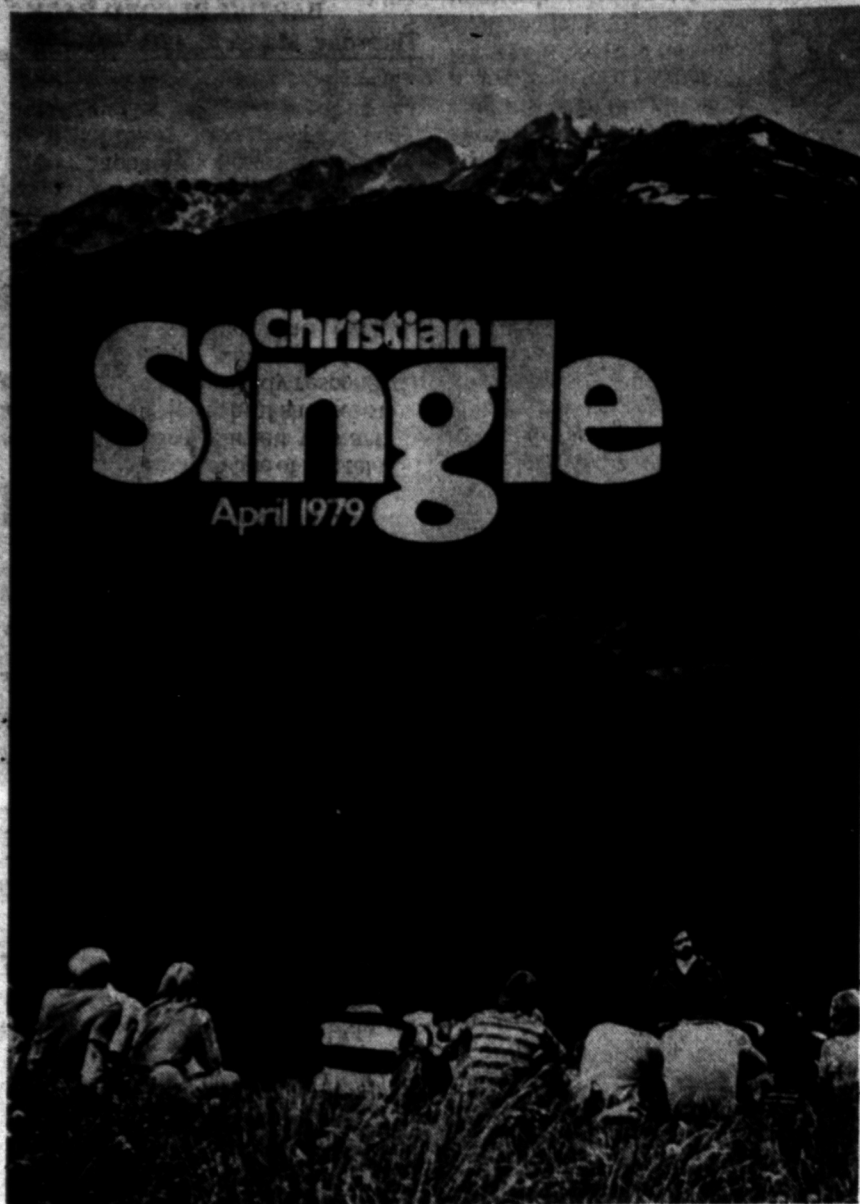
The project calls for carpenters, electricians, plumbers, VBS workers, survey, painters, day camp, mission VBS, and general helpers. The projected date is May 25-June 2.

Congregational singing was led by Frank L. Leggett, Bassfield physician. A quartet sang, after an introduction by C. W. Price, local humorist and veterinarian. Dr. Leggett sang a solo.

Adding much to the program were the "Serenity" singers from Phalti Church.

Last was a missionary message by Ray Grissett, consultant, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Mrs. Billy Green led the benediction. L. B. Atchison is the associational missions leader for Covington and Jefferson Davis Counties.



Magazine For Singles Will Premiere In April

NASHVILLE—Christian Single, a monthly magazine for single adults, will begin publication by the Sunday School Board in April.

Targeted to never married, divorced and widowed adults, the magazine will contain regular features about single people, lifestyle issues, tips for everyday living, Bible study helps for weeknight singles groups and daily devotional helps.

"Our aim is to deal constructively with the deeply personal needs of singles," said Cliff Allbritton, Christian Single editor. A single adult and former pastor, Allbritton came to the board from Dallas where he was vice-president of Corporate Consultants.

He said the magazine also will be helpful to workers with single adults in developing "a practical philosophy of winning singles to Christ and witnessing to their needs." In Dallas, Allbritton was involved as a member and Sunday School teacher in the single adult ministry at Northway Baptist Church.

Articles in the magazine's first issue include help on living abundantly, finding and doing God's will, depression, single parenting and achieving wholeness after divorce.

Suzanne Matheny, a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, says in one article that a study of Jesus' life yields a "yes" answer to the question

of whether a single can live abundantly.

"Further, it (Jesus' life) indicates that the source of all abundant living is the fulfillment of any Christian's purpose—the witness of God that a person gives," she said.

In an article on single parenting, Marjorie Rowden Kelly concluded that "It isn't easy to rear children alone. But it not only is possible it can be an exciting challenge."

Les Morris, who was a pastor at the time of his divorce, wrote that his experience showed him that God can work with the brokenness caused by falling short of God's ideal.

"The new you can be the reality created out of the dreams that never were. You can be whole again," said Morris, who is now affiliated with the Presbyterian Ministers Fund in Birmingham, Ala.

Christian Single may be ordered on the Church Literature Order Form at a cost of \$1.65 per quarter or by individual subscription.



Mississippi Retirement Gift

In looking toward the retirement of Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, Baptists of Mississippi sent a memento that is distinctively Mississippi. It is a painting of magnolia blossoms and mockingbirds. It was presented to Routh by Clark McMurray, left, an SBC Executive Committee member from Mississippi. He is pastor of First Baptist Church, Pascagoula. Routh will retire July 31.

Devotional

The Greatest Of These Is Love

By Bill Causey, Pastor, Parkway, Jackson, and President, Mississippi Baptist Convention
I Cor. 13:13

As the bloom of the flower is that for which the rest of the flower exists, even so the expected fruit in the Christian's life is love. This quality alone makes him like his Heavenly Father.



Causey

I. Love is an integral part of the Character of God. John in his first epistle (4:16), in his lofty discussion about the great love God has shown to all of us who believe, makes the simple statement that "God is Love." Obviously this is not the world's kind of love, but rather the seeking and covenant keeping love of a righteous God seeking "that which is lost." There is a shabby kind of thinking, that would take that high description of the character of God, and try to reverse the language and say "Love is God." In so doing they create an idol and lose the one definite and trustworthy hope for their salvation which is the integrity of Jehovah.

II. Love is the missing ingredient in the nature of natural man. Love has to be learned in the school of God. "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (I John 4:10). In the well-known love chapter of I Corinthians 13 Paul shows this as the "more excellent way" of the concluding verse of the twelfth chapter.

III. Three abiding qualities are spoken of as particularly enduring (I Cor. 13:13). Faith is enduring because it introduces us to God and sustains us. It is the root system from which all other spiritual treasures spring. Without it there is no beginning with God and no spiritual prosperity.

Hope is abiding because it is the promised treasure of God for which we wait by faith. It is the confidence in God's constancy adding certainty to our lives in a world of insecurity. Hope comes from the root of faith like the stem of a flower.

Love is the flower, however, and is spoken of as the greatest of these. In what sense is it the greatest?

It is the greatest in its endurance and is as everlasting as God is. It is the greatest in quality because no other thing so expresses the character of God as love does.

The unveiled heart of God reveals love.

Annuity Board Sends '13th' Check To 11,000 Annuitants

DALLAS (BP)—With the mailing of a "13th check," the Southern Baptist Annuity Board classified 1978 as a year of "substantive growth and challenge," but "not necessarily one of calm."

Darold H. Morgan, the agency's president, told trustees the mailing of an extra full month's check went to more than 11,000 annuitants.

In his staff report to the trustees during their 61st annual meeting, Morgan highlighted activities of 1978, calling the year one of "everything but calm."

"Extremes in market variations, pressures of escalating costs, changes in accounting procedures, the influence of governmental regulations and changes in personnel and organization kept us very busy," Morgan reported.

The board reported record benefits disbursed to retired or disabled ministers and church and denominational employees. More than \$25.9 million was paid in benefits, some \$6.4 million more than 1977. Of that total, \$345,978 was distributed for relief and another \$13 million was paid in insurance claims.

Morgan said assets held in trust for thousands of ministers, church and denominational employees who participate in the retirement and protection plans the board administers rose to \$569,734,471, an increase of \$70,756,810 over 1977.

He said the enlistment of 630 new churches was a "significant gain . . . I'm particularly pleased that we have reached this large number of new churches with our ministry. Reaching

local churches is a top priority."

The board enrolled 2,545 new ministers and church employees in the retirement program, while 3,721 active members upgraded their participation.

Morgan said the board disbursed \$279,772 received from the SBC Cooperative Program for the relief ministry.

The board, he said, operated within its budget, showing a margin of \$4,678. Morgan introduced Harold D. Richardson of Richmond, Va., the board's new treasurer, who succeeds B. J. Chenault, who was assigned the directorship of the newly created endowment department.

Morgan said the new endowment department faces a major challenge over the next decade, as it seeks to raise \$25 million.



Uniform Lesson

Your Body: God's Gift

By Larry Kennedy, First, Laurel
I Cor. 6:14-20; 7:3-7

A very intelligent boy of 14 decided to write an essay on the subject, "The Mystery of Life." He did extensive reading on the subject and acquired an excellent understanding of his chosen theme. He decided to get some first hand information from his mother in order to add a personal perspective to the report. He asked her, "Mother, where did I come from?"

His mother replied, "A stork brought you."

A little disturbed by that response, he asked, "Well, then where did you come from Mother?"

She replied, "Why dear, a stork brought me too."

The young man approached his grandmother and asked, "Grandmother, where did you come from?"

With a big smile Grandmother replied, "My darling, a stork brought me."

In complete disgust the boy began his essay with this line: "There hasn't been a normal birth in our family for three generations."

In our society people usually approach the subject of sex from one of two extremes: we either sweep the subject under the rug and act as if sex doesn't exist, or we make the sexual theme the sum total of our existence. The apostle Paul had some things to say about the human body, sex, and marriage. He put these themes in proper perspective and offered some practical advice that was very helpful.

I. The Body is to be Respected

At the beginning of one of her television shows, Carol Burnett was asked who she would like to be if she were not Carol Burnett. She quickly responded, "Raquel Welch." When asked why, she responded, "Because when I got up in the morning I could look in the mirror and say, 'Hey, that looks good.'"

Carol's response is very revealing. It reminds all of us of our body consciousness and how important our physical appearance is to us. The Bible speaks of the importance of the body and of how God wants to use our bodies as a temple for his spirit. The apostle Paul said, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you . . ." (I Cor. 6:19). In the

context of the above verse Paul revealed to us that some members of the Corinthian church were engaging in sexual immorality. Since prostitution was practiced in the name of religion in Corinth, some church members had refused to break with their former sinful habits.

A few members of the church may have subscribed to the philosophy of the gnostics who taught that since the body is evil, it could be used for any vice. Paul, however, contended that the body was good and that God wanted to use it as a habitation for his Spirit. According to Paul, the body was to be respected.

II. The Body is to Glorify God

To Paul the human body was a beautiful means of glorifying God. He said, "For you have been bought with a price: Therefore glorify God in your body" (I Cor. 6:20). God is honored when God's people treat their bodies with dignity and respect. The divine presence speaks from a personality that treats the human body with respect.

Paul reminds us that God has a right to expect that we would treat our bodies with dignity because Christ purchased our salvation with the price of his death. A little girl was rushed to the hospital in great need of blood. The only possible donor was her brother. The father asked the brother to give some blood to his sister. After the transfusion the father said, "Son, thank you for giving some of your blood."

The boy replied, "My blood? I thought I was going to give my life." Christ did give his life for us, and we must give our bodies in honor to him.

Freud was once riding a train when a jolt opened the washroom door. An aged man, wearing a dressing gown and cap, entered his compartment. Just as he was about to inform the intruder that he was in the wrong room, Freud discovered that the stranger was actually his own image reflected in the mirror. Those who allow their bodies to become temples of God's Spirit have a similar experience as they discover the difficulty of recognizing their former selves.

III. The Body is to be Shared

Although Paul condemned sexual immorality, he did not condemn sex.

He viewed sex as a gift of God that was to play a vital part in the marriage relationship. A justice of the peace refused to marry a couple because of a technical error in the license. The young man asked, "Well, could you say a few words to get us through the weekend?" In God's eyes marriage is not just a weekend event. It is a life long event whereby two people can nourish and enjoy their sexuality in the sharing of their bodies. Paul said, "Let the husband fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband" (I Cor. 7:3).

The Bible views marriage as the bond of trust where two people grow together in the sharing of their lives. On a golden anniversary, it was said of one couple: "They talked and listened to each other. They comforted and supported each other. They shared thoughts, ideas, hopes, fears, joys, and sorrows. They established rituals to celebrate the great occasions of human life. Within the wider community they created an inner private life of intimacy, of deep mutual involvement, of complete openness to each other."

Mount Olive Organizes Youth Choir

Mount Olive Church, Coila, has a newly formed Youth Choir consisting of 24 members. They have been on several field trips and made appearances at nearby churches. Steve Daves, choir director, says they are preparing now for engagements in the near future.

The members are Janice Brasswell, pianist, Lisa Griffin, Crystal Streeter, Lois Robertson, Rita Alford, Gail Watts, Pam Matthews, Angela Ay, Tammy Dunn, Steve Daves, Teresa Brasswell, Beverly Hanson, Mark Matthews, Keith Alford, Merritt Braswell, Byron Cheatham, Ann Alford, Charlotte Williamson, Mac McClellan, Dwayne Coward, Danny Cox, Ricky Daves, Doug Ellis, Darrell Ellis, and Tim Robertson.

By Joe McKeever, First, Columbus
Romans 12

How to relate to the world—There you have the all-time number one problem of Christians through the centuries.

Some choose one of two extremes. We may pull out of the world—by joining a monastery or convent or Christian-only community. We can work in an office that has only Christians, send our kids to a school attended only by Christians, and purchase only from the Christian yellow pages. That's one choice.

Or, we may join the world. Bring its moral standards and business ethics into the church. Politick for leadership positions, make every decision by what the majority wants, pray about little, worry about everything and thank God for nothing. That's the world's way.

The trouble with these two approaches is that the world goes on in darkness. The people with the light have put it under a bushel or turned it out altogether. The salt remains in the shaker on the shelf or scatters into the world lacking saltiness, and the world goes on looking for a way out of its hell.

As if to solve this dilemma, Paul gives us his magnificent 12th chapter of Romans: What an inspired message from God!

Let's make a few general statements about the chapter and then focus on the first two verses.

The chapter shows us what a Christian ought to be: (1) He's in right relationship to God (12:1-2); (2) He's rightly related to himself (12:3); and (3) He's rightly related to others (12:4-21).

We relate to God by a NEW MIND (verse 2); We relate to ourselves by a SOUND MIND (verse 3). We relate to others with a HUMBLE MIND (verse 16).

A new mind can know the will of God; a sound mind can experience the presence of God; and a humble mind can serve the people of God.

A Living Sacrifice

Vernon McGee calls a "therefore" in the Bible a four-way stop. It's a reminder to pause and look both ways before proceeding.

Our call to full commitment stems

from the final four verses of Romans 11. That doxology praises the Lord's wisdom. His riches, and His greatness. In light of who God is, Paul says, you ought to present yourself a living sacrifice.

But the second reason for such a commitment is "the mercies of God" (verse 1). Mercy's definition explains it—mercy is God NOT giving us what we deserve. So, because of such kindness, let us surrender to His will.

"Present your bodies." Does this surprise you? We speak of surrendering our will, our heart—but the word here is definitely bodies. The meaning is all of you, your very selves.

God looks for those who will carry out His will on earth. We must not content ourselves with yielding a portion of our lives, but every area of our existence.

"A living sacrifice." This is a paradox. A sacrifice was slain, but this one still lives. The Christian has died with Christ on Calvary and experienced His resurrection.

Consequently, we may be as yielded to God as any sacrifice offered, but useful to Him because we still live.

"Reasonable service." I used to take this as the literal English suggests—that a full sacrifice of your life is not anything exceptional at all, just "reasonable service." While that is absolutely the case, that's not the point of his phrase as Paul wrote it.

The word translated "reasonable" is logiken. While that looks like "logical," the meaning is different. The idea means worship and service which stem from the soul. Some translations therefore render this "spiritual service."

"Conformed . . . transformed." These words in the Greek are not similar as in the English. "Conform" means fashioned, made according to another's pattern.

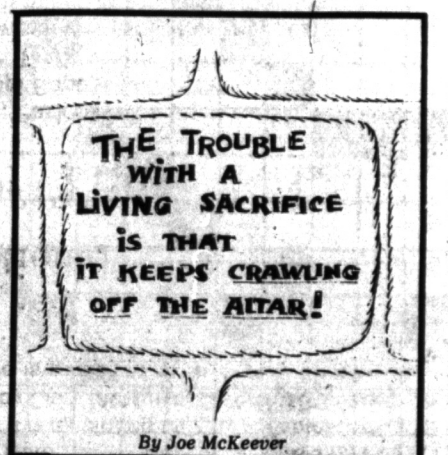
"Transformed" comes from the same Greek word as metamorphosis. Immediately we get mental pictures of the caterpillar—cocoon—butterfly event. It's a complete change.

The verb tense speaks of habits—don't be in the habit of conforming to this world; do get in the habit of being completely changed by the renewing of your inner self.

The pay off? Only by such a continu-

ing change can you hope to know and experience and demonstrate the will of God in our world.

It's not a once-and-for-all experience, a religious pill to take and forget, but a day-by-day practice of putting yourself on the Lord's altar. As He remakes your mind, you know your true self and are fit for service. And that's something of how the Christian is to relate to the world.



By Joe McKeever

Jail Ministry Bears Fruit At Prentiss

A jail ministry was begun at Prentiss a year ago under leadership of Franklin F. Hughes, retired county agent.

Assisting Hughes is Pat Daley of Santee community. Prayer service and a witnessing ministry begin at 9 and last until 10 on Sundays. Ray Henry of Society Hill Baptist Church teaches, at present from Galatians. Tape recordings are used for the benefit of illiterates.

In one year 26 have accepted Christ as Saviour. Others are expressing more interest in the service than at the beginning. The Gideons supply the Bibles; and the Prentiss Baptist Church lends tapes.

